

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. IX.—NEW SERIES, No. 177.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1849.

[PRICE 6d.]

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

TITHES—A TAX ON INDUSTRY.

THE "Dissenting Minister" to whose sixpenny tract we referred in our last number, and who, on the face of his wordy assumption that the Church of England is unpaid by the State, but is maintained upon her own resources, writes this irrelevant and pompous label, "The Separation of Church and State injurious to Religion," is scarcely entitled to a fuller reply than that we have already given him. Unfortunately, however, he is but one of a crowd—not a very noticeable one either—whose information on the subject of Church property may be fairly set down as *nil*, and whose faith is given, without inquiry, to any maxim, however false, which wears the clerical livery. Indeed, it is surprising how large is the number of persons who, like our "Dissenting Minister," seem anxious to advertise themselves to "the nobility, gentry, and clergy," as "flats waiting to be caught," and for whose especial benefit, shrewd statesmen, sharp lawyers, and crafty ecclesiastics, concoct those common fallacies respecting the privileges and possessions of both Church and State, which are intended to give to the grossest wrong an aspect of sometimes historic, sometimes political, and sometimes moral right.

One of the baits thus prepared for the unwary, and greedily snapped up by the subs and scrubs of party, is this—that tithes were originally a charge upon the land, made by some early owner in favour of the Church—that the clergy have as good a right to their tenth, as the landlords have to the remaining nine-tenths of an estate—and that the confiscation of any portion, or the whole, of the rent by the State, for its own purpose, would not involve a more flagrant robbery, than the appropriation of tithes to its own use. This hackneyed fallacy we undertake to refute. Without mincing of terms, we undertake to prove, and we hope it may be to the conviction of the "Dissenting Minister" himself, that tithe is *not* a charge upon the land in any sense—that, on the contrary, it always has been, and is now, (notwithstanding the modern Commutation Act, which in no way altered its true character) a tax upon the produce of industry—that its only pedestal is the law—and that what law now assigns for the maintenance of certain offices, law will be justified in otherwise appropriating, whenever the offices themselves, as State offices, may by the wisdom of Parliament be abolished.

It will scarcely be necessary to remark that our argument is derived from the law of tithes as it stands in the remaining parishes in which the Commutation Act has not yet been put in force, and as it stood throughout the kingdom previously to the passing of that measure by the Whigs. The provisions of that Act do nothing to alter the character of tithes, however they may have changed the mode of their assessment and collection.

Our first position, then, is that tithes have never been demanded, never paid, from the earliest times till now, in respect of *land*. It is not like rent, a sum payable to the legal claimant, as an equivalent

for being put into possession of the soil—the raw material, as it were, of agricultural produce. It bears no resemblance to a rent-charge, which entails upon the inheritor of an estate an obligation to forego a certain proportion of its proceeds, as the condition of his enjoying the remainder. Tithes have no reference to the *land* whatever, but simply and solely to the increase which labour, skill, and capital can make of its produce. The evidence in support of this position may be summed up in the following considerations.

And first, the fact stands out clear and indisputable that tithe is payable, according to the doctrine of the old fathers, the papal laws elsewhere in force, and the statute 2 and 3 Edward VI. c. 13, not merely on the increase arising from land, but on the clear gains, after deducting all charges and expenses, of every subject of the realm—common day-labourers, and servants occupied in husbandry being alone excepted. If the claims of the clergy to personal tithes, owing to the difficulty of recovering them, have, save in the case of fish and mills, fallen into desuetude, the ancient practice, the existing statute, and the two or three instances in which it is carried into effect, suffice to show that tithe had an original reference to *increase*, however produced, and not to the *soil* out of which, for the most part, the increase arises.

This view of the subject is supported by the highest legal authority. Eagle, for example, on Tithe Commutation Acts, 3rd ed. Intro. ix., lays down the position that "tithes are not in strictness payable in respect of the *land*, but in respect to the *persons* of the laity in return for spiritual benefits—they do not belong, nor are they appurtenant to the land; they are not a profit issuing out of the land as a rent is, but are collateral to, and wholly distinct from, the estate in the land." Shepherd says, "Tithe was never claimed in respect of any ownership in the land, but *ex debito*, by the law of God, for subtraction whereof no remedy lay at the common law"—and Coke declares "*Terra non sunt decimabiles* (lands are not titheable); and, therefore, neither mines nor quarries of iron, brass, tin, lead, coals, stones, tile, brick, or lime, are titheable, nor houses, nor trees, nor grass, nor corn, till they be severed from the land—the real estate which descends by inheritance from the ancestor—and made a distinct personal possession." What says our "Dissenting minister" to that? Is Coke a sound lawyer? or can any ingenuity reconcile his dictum with what these gentlemen are so fond of assuming, that the estate has come down from the ancestor burdened with the tithe?

But again. If it were true that tithe was originally in the nature of a rent-charge on real estate, given to the Church by the piety of some early owner, how does it happen that in not a single deed or conveyance of land, to be found in the kingdom, is any such gift set forth, or any reservation whatever made in favour of the endowed party? Can such a fact be accounted for except upon the ground, that the first tithe-payer on the estate, although he had a clear right to pay tithes during his lifetime, never had, never could have, never dreamt that he had, the right, to dispose for his posterity of the tenth part of the *fruit of their labour*? It was not his to bestow. It was not aught in which, in any proper sense, or upon any reasonable construction, he had the slightest property—nor was the nature of it such that it ever could be paid on the ground of any reason derived from him. Pretty piety that, which should assume to give away property in which the donor had no manner of right! But to such piety our ancestors never laid claim. It is foisted upon them by the audacity of the clergy, and by the ignorance of such of their dupes, as this "Dissenting minister."

Once more, if tithe were really a charge upon the land, and not upon the produce of that industry which works it, it would be payable quite irrespectively of the proceedings of the occupier. But how stands the fact, at least where the recent Commutation Act is not yet put in force? Why, a man might choose to let his land lie waste, in which case, as there would be no produce, so there

would be no claim for a tenth of it—or if he husband his land, so that the increase of it is not severed, no tithe can be recovered of it—or if he plant wood and let it stand for timber, or stock it with beasts, in which there is no personal property, he exempts himself from the claim. He may pasture it with horses or barren cattle, when a very small rate-tithe only can be demanded of him—or with cows and breeding cattle, in which case he will have to pay more—or with sheep that yield a fleece, when his tithe will be considerable—or he may plough it and sow corn, when the tenth part of the increase may be worth more than the rent of the soil on which it grows. These instances concur in demonstrating that tithe has reference to the *stock and personal estate*, and not to the *land*—and that the increase of which a tenth part is payable to the Church, is the increase won from the soil by industry, skill, and capital.

Lastly,—for we take a further enumeration of particulars to be superfluous—before the statute 32 Henry VIII. c. 7, an action for tithes could not be maintained in the *temporal* courts—a very strange fact, if, as is pretended, tithes constituted a charge upon the estate, settled by a previous owner; in that same act they are called "*spiritual gifts*," and the preamble of it charges recusants, not with withholding what their forefathers had consecrated, but as "evil-disposed persons, having no respect to their duties to Almighty God, but against right and good conscience have attempted to subtract and withhold, in some places the whole, and in some places great part of their tithes and oblations, as well personal as predial, due unto God and holy Church."

We have already trespassed beyond our usual limits—but we think we have given sufficient reason for the conclusion, that tithe is not paid in respect of the land—but in respect of the increase obtained from it by human industry—and that, consequently, it never could have been bestowed upon the Church in the shape of a private endowment.

CHURCH-RATES; CHILTON, BUCKS.—On Friday, the 23rd ult., about twelve o'clock, Mr. Banwell, of Chilton-park, one of the constables of the parish, entered the farm of Mr. Barry, and, with the assistance of a boy, drove therefrom three half-bred ewes and four lambs, in lieu of a church-rate amounting to 2l. 8s. 1d., which Mr. Barry refused to pay, from conscientious feelings. The sheep and lambs were driven to Mr. Osborne, Mr. Chetwode's churchwarden, where they remained until the evening, at which time Mr. Banwell sent his man for them, and had them taken to his own farm to await disposal. When they were being driven through the village, some thirty or forty men, women, and children, were standing about the road, and the following conversation took place: "Hallo! I say, whose sheep and lambs be they?" "O, they be the sheep and lambs they stole from Mr. Barry's farm to-day!" Another replied, "It is the law of the land, and Barry ought to pay." Another said, "It is a burning shame to take a man's property to pay to a church he don't belong to." A regular discussion now ensued on the Church and State question. It appears that the Anti-state-church meetings which have been held in this neighbourhood during the last two or three years, have done much towards enlightening the peasantry on this important question. We understand from Mr. Barry that Mr. Banwell went to his house, and expressed deep regret at the part which, as constable, he was obliged to take in the business, and said he would rather have paid 10l. out of his own pocket than have done it. Mr. Banwell is a churchman.

LAWYERS FOR BISHOPS.—The practical profession of the Church in such a case as that of Mr. Gorham, is, that the decision of doctrine is best left with the lawyers, and if so, why not allow them seats on the episcopal bench? It would be a capital plan to secure the orthodoxy of the bar, to make barristers eligible for bishoprics, and would preserve a consistency now wanting in the system.—*National*.

THE SECESSION OF THE "ARCHIVES DU CHRISTIANISME" from the National, or Stipendiary Reformed Church of France, is not the least important consequence of the decision of the Synod to reject a Confession of Faith—as its powerful talent will be henceforth more fully consecrated to the cause of Christian liberty.—*Christian Times*.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

MEETING AT ISLINGTON.

The last of the series of meetings in and around the metropolis, which have been lately held by the Association, took place on Thursday evening (29th ult.) at the British Schools, Denmark-terrace, Islington, and was numerously attended. The chair was taken by ROBERT BAKER, Esq., who introduced the business of the evening in a brief and appropriate speech.

The Rev. W. FORSTER moved the first resolution—

That the avowed anxiety of our statesmen to pay the Roman Catholic priesthood of Ireland out of the public funds, together with the gradual extension of the principle of supporting all religious sects from the public taxes, furnishes the strongest motive to the friends of religious equality earnestly and perseveringly to agitate for the complete separation of the Church from the State.

He contended that State-churches were everywhere essentially similar, and were everywhere objectionable on general grounds; while their peculiar modifications would expose them to attacks from various points. The priesthods of paganism and of the papacy, alike borrowing the power of the secular arm and the influence of regal pomp, were alike guilty of an infringement on the rights of conscience—conscience, that mysterious faculty which linked the soul of man to the throne of God—which either received from external light pouring in upon it, or originated from itself, ideas of right and wrong. Whatever interfered between that conscience and God, plundered the soul of its birthday gift from the Father of spirits—attempted to strip it of one of its most prominent features of likeness to him—and degraded an intellectual being into a thing, a mere animal, without mind to control its actions or direct its destinies [cheers]. In one sense, thank God, conscience could not be touched by man. When immured in a dungeon, or when the flames were gathering round him at the stake, a man's conscience might be unfettered and untouched. Mr. Shore's conscience, at that moment, in Exeter Gaol, might be as free as at the period, not far distant, when he would appear in Exeter-hall, surrounded by friends assembled to celebrate the triumph of religious liberty in his person [loud cheers]. On this ground, all State-churches were objectionable. But further—they involved an assumption of the authority of God. The old Pagan kings professed to be the vicegerents of the divinities, and were regarded as, in a peculiar sense, emanations from, and representatives of, them—as demigods, indeed; and there was at least consistency in all that [hear]. The old cavaliers, who fought for the Stuarts with a courage worthy of a better cause, had a somewhat similar idea—that of divine right: they gave their hearts and their swords to the cause of the king, as being the cause of God. But did modern statesmen put forth any such claims on behalf of the monarch whom they upheld as the head of the Church? It was true that God had, in ancient times, raised up inspired prophets, and made them the medium of his communications to men; but it was only to call forth deeper reverence towards, and bring them into closer communion with, himself; he never had invested, he never could invest, in accordance with the constitution of the human mind—any man with power to control the thoughts and feelings of his fellow-man. A State Church, too, was impolitic: it was a costly affair—priests would have nothing to do with the civil ruler except they were paid largely for it. It was dishonouring to God and to religion, for it implied that Christianity could not maintain itself—that faith, which for three hundred years was unaided by the laws or the legions of the empire—which had achieved its most beautiful triumphs, answered the subtlest sophisms of philosophy, and laid hold of the great body of the people, before Constantine dishonoured it with his patronage, and enumbered it with his help. Omnipotence itself—the almighty power that sustained the universe in order, that preserved the harmony of systems of worlds moving around their centres—stood by, as it were, to let the divine doctrines of Jesus exert their legitimate and beautiful influence on the human intellect and conscience—yet puny man talked of the necessity for physical force to maintain Christianity [loud cheers]. By its union with the Church, the State itself lost, to a great degree, the moral support it would receive from uncorrupted and unfettered religion. Statesmen admitted that they could not get on if the morality of the people were not with them—they could not afford a 10th of April every year [a laugh]—could not be always appealing to physical force; and they argued from that, that they must support religion. But, in fact, they thereby deprived themselves of much of its aid, by lessening its moral power; just as the Philistines took away Samson's strength when they cut off Samson's locks. What would England have been but for the efforts and influence of the free churches? Look at the ignorance of some of those parts of the land—the agricultural districts—where the Establishment was most powerful. But for its alliance with the State, Christianity would have made England long ago as "the garden of the Lord." What, then, were they to do? Not as some were doing, content themselves with opposing the extension of the Establishment principle, and refuse to move a finger against its present forms; they must appeal to the nation on this great question—endeavour to diffuse right ideas of the return of Christ's kingdom, and create an hallowed indignation against the assumption of his authority. And when the Anglican Church became free—when she arose and shook herself from the dust, and put on her beautiful garments, as a daughter of the Eternal King—she and the sister churches of the land might go forth together to promote the holiness and happiness of the world which Christ had redeemed [loud and long-continued cheers].

The Rev. JOSEPH HUTTON, LL.D., in seconding the motion, said:—I do so because I wish for the prevalence of the truth—not of my truth, nor of your truth, but of what may be very different from either, and possibly from both—the truth of God and of Christ. In order that the truth may prevail, it is desirable that all opinions should be discussed freely and fairly—that no one should be bribed or punished for professing the opinions which he may hold. I trust that we shall all rejoice in the ultimate triumph of the truth, even though it should prove our own defeat. As to the precise sub-

ject of the resolution, I think the argument lies in a nutshell. If one party of religionists is to be endowed, it is only fair and just that all should be endowed; and then the consequence will be, to make all lazy and all servile [hear, hear].

The Rev. J. A. MORRIS proposed the second resolution—

That in the opinion of this meeting the State Church is a mere worldly and political institution; that it obstructs the diffusion of true religion; and is the fertile source of grievous social and political evils: an illustration of which is seen in the recent incarceration of the Rev. James Shore, for preaching as a Nonconformist, and for non-payment of the Bishop of Exeter's costs.

He said:—If this is the first time I have appeared as a speaker on an Anti-state-church platform, it is not from any want of attachment to the principles of this association; for ever since my mind has been seriously turned to the question, I have been an Anti-state-church man, and have said as strong things as most men on the subject—stronger things, perhaps, than I should say now; not because I believe less, but because I know more. The resolution before us says that the State-church is a political institution, an obstruction to the diffusion of religion, and the source of grievous political evils. That is our faith: we believe that. We don't believe that we are doing anything to injure the so-called Church of this country. It is because we think that all that deserves the name of Church in that institution will be strengthened and promoted by its separation from the State, that we seek that separation. It is not the Church that we war against, but the world in the Church [hear, hear]. We destroy the Church! So far as we admit it truly to represent Christianity, how could we try to destroy it? We think it to be a Christian thing; and our aim is, to put it in exactly the same position in which we are ourselves. "Doth any man hate his own flesh?" [laughter and cheers.] Surely a man has a right to be received as a speaker of the truth—of his own truth, at any rate—when the end of his ambition is, to secure an equality of circumstances, and of relations. When we set about destroying ourselves, intentionally, then it will be time enough to charge us with seeking, intentionally, to destroy the Church. Further, do we not simply desire to put that Church in the condition in which Christ left his own religion? I will not reason about that. I believe it to be, not only a fact, but a fact involved in the argument. Can our proceedings have a very bad look, when we only seek to bring back that which says it is religion into the place in which its Author left it? Can we be very inimical to the real religion that is in the Establishment, when, if all our purposes were gained, it would only just be in the condition in which its Founder introduced it to the world? Surely those who accuse us of being against the spirituality and power of the Church, do not—though they mean not so—speak very well of the Son of God. This as to the general matter. There is a special illustration mentioned in the resolution, of the worldly character of Church Establishments. I don't care much about the case, as a case. It is not a man's being in prison for preaching the gospel, that concerns me a great deal. You will not suspect me of being a very hard-hearted man, but I have tried to get up something like a deep commiseration for Mr. Shore, and I can't—I can't, for the life of me, feel very doleful about it [laughter]. I should like very much to be imprisoned for preaching the gospel—[renewed laughter]—it would be the making of me, or of any man. To be imprisoned for preaching the gospel eighteen hundred years ago, was a very different thing. I make no doubt, there has been nothing in the history of Mr. Shore so good for him, as his being the object of the Bishop of Exeter's malice—using the word in an innocent sense [laughter]. Children have been taken to be baptized by him in the prison—Doctor *This* and Doctor *That* are going hundreds of miles to see him—and now we are threatened with a great manifestation in Exeter-hall [renewed laughter]. It is a case of living martyrdom, and that makes it altogether a different case from the imprisonment and death of Peter or Paul. I don't say this at all to depreciate Mr. Shore; but all I say is, I don't feel he has a very strong claim on my sympathies. The thing that troubles me is—he is imprisoned by the Church, by the professed representative of my religion [hear, hear]. That a Church which calls itself, and is by multitudes deemed to be, the Christian Church of this country, should have the power—that is bad—should have the will—that is worse—to imprison a man at all [loud cheers]. I cannot, for the life of me, understand how a Church and a prison can in any sense go together—except, as it is pithily said, "The Church is the prison" [cheers]. For a Church to put a man in prison, outrages all my notions of the very essence of religion [renewed cheers]. I feel this as a Christian man. It does not concern a man who does not believe in Christianity; but I do believe it to be true, and therefore I am greatly grieved and troubled that a body standing out to represent it should so misrepresent its genius and spirit. The gospel does not authorize it, or anything of the kind. I take my stand on that, and would face any man or set of men in defence of the assertion. Jesus Christ did not do it—the apostles did not do it, nor anything like it. They never said anything that would lead, by the most remote inference, to a justification of it. In the New Testament you have nothing of the kind, neither in letter nor spirit; so if you don't like texts, take the whole thing. The apostles excommunicated no man—they delivered him over to Satan. I have no objection at all to that [laughter]. The Bishop of Exeter may deliver me over to Satan as soon as he likes—I don't fear that; but I do object to his delivering me over to the gaoler [renewed laughter]—that's a substantial evil. If I were delivered over to Satan, I could manage the matter myself—we should be on equal ground [much laughter]. I don't care a rush about spiritual excommunication; but civil excommunication—which is involved in a State-church—takes in bodily evil. If this case were an historical incident, there would not be much in it; but it is a sign, it is a fruit, it is an indication. I am prepared to maintain that the imprisonment of Mr. Shore is simply the legitimate result—and more, the only consistent carrying out—of the State-church principle [loud cheers]. That principle is, that the State is bound to provide religion for the people. Grant that, and you must allow something else—that the State, that is, kings and statesmen, are bound to give the people that religion which they themselves believe to be true; and then it follows—that they are bound to prevent any false doctrine being taught to their people [hear, hear, and cheers]. The only instrument the State can employ is force. When its tax-gatherer comes to our doors, he

does not enter into a logical argument to persuade us to pay to certain institutions. I don't complain of that; but I do complain that our holy religion should be made to rest upon the basis of force [cheers]—to come to us, not with reasons from the Old Testament, or from the New, but simply with, "You must." What is the imprisonment of Mr. Shore but saying, "You must," or "You must not?" This is the only use I can make of his case; and because I could make no other use of it, I would have nothing to do with the agitation of the matter, because I knew that those who were working it could not conveniently have allowed this to be said.

In the absence of the Rev. T. E. Thoresby, the Chairman called on

EDWARD MIAL, Esq. (who was received with much applause), to second the resolution. After a few remarks on Mr. Shore's case, as illustrating the bondage of clergymen in the Establishment, he proceeded to argue the question of Church property. In a long and very effective speech he went through the history of tithes, pointed out the purposes for which they were given—namely, for the relief of the poor and the maintenance of the ecclesiastical edifice, as well as the revenues of the bishop and the parish priest—and their gradual entire appropriation by the clergy.

A WORKING MAN present wished to make a few observations; but his statements as to the revenues of the bishops were so incredibly extravagant as to call forth a reply from one or two Churchmen present, which caused an interruption for some time.

The motion having been carried with only two dissentients,

The Rev. T. E. THORESBY moved the last resolution:—

That believing the dissolution of the union of Church and State to be an object to which the attention of every Christian patriot should be most earnestly directed, this meeting rejoices in the existence and operations of the British Anti-state-church Association, and desires to afford it its hearty co-operation.

He expressed his great obligations to the *Nonconformist* newspaper. He recollected having, some years ago, in his mistaken dislike to its principles, kicked it down stairs [laughter]; but he had since come fully up to its standard, and would give "honour to whom honour was due." He did not regard the Anti-state-church question as by any means exclusively a Dissenting question—he feared the Dissenters would not have the spirit to carry it to a successful issue. He had reason to know it was attracting much attention in the Establishment itself, among evangelical clergymen. One of them had recently put into his hand a pamphlet, intimating that he was its writer, entitled, "The State Connexion Impartially Examined," and forcibly exhibiting the evils of the union. The imprisonment of Mr. Shore would do much to remove a notion hitherto entertained among Episcopalians, that the alliance was little more than nominal; and if the abuses of the Church continued unreformed, they would soon insist on the entire separation.

Mr. ALLAN TEMPLETON seconded the resolution.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

MANCHESTER.—A public meeting of the friends and supporters of the Anti-state-church Association, was held at the Corn Exchange, Manchester, on Monday week; Mr. W. Morris in the chair. Dr. Massie moved the first resolution. Mr. A. Prentice in seconding it, said, it was an argument in favour of State education that no voluntary effort could give sufficient education to the people. The population of Manchester and Salford, and that of New York, exclusive of Brooklyn, was nearly equal. In the former there were 139 places of worship, while in New York, where all was left to the voluntary effort of the people, there were 215, about fifty per cent. more than we had under our much lauded compulsory system. The resolution was put and carried. J. Kingsley, Esq., moved the second resolution, which specially referred to the Irish Church. They did not speak of this question in a sectarian spirit, but they desired the impartiality of the civil magistrate with regard to all creeds and denominations. If any party was entitled to government support in Ireland, no doubt it was the Roman Catholic, as to it the majority of the people belonged. But a Church establishment was supported for the sake of some 700,000 Episcopalians, at a cost of £1,200,000 a year, wrung from a Roman Catholic population [hear]. This Society opposed strenuously the endowment of any religious body. The Rev. Dr. Nolan seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously. The Rev. J. Peters moved the third resolution, stating that the meeting was desirous of affording the Anti-state-church Association such an amount of support as will enable it to sustain and extend its operations. The Rev. H. Toller seconded the motion, and it was carried. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

HEYWOOD.—On Tuesday evening last, a public meeting of the Anti-state-church Society, and sympathisers with the Rev. James Shore, was held in the school-room belonging to the Independents, Heywood, near Bury; Mr. Hopkinson, cotton-spinner, was chairman. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. Samuel Smith, of Rochdale, Harrison and Gutteridge, of Heywood, and W. R. Thorborn, of Bury. A petition, in aid of the objects for which the meeting had been called, was adopted.

LEEDS.—A public meeting, convened by advertisement and placard, was held in the Music Hall, Albion-street, on Tuesday se'night, for the purpose of agitating the important question of the separation of the Church from the State. A deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association attended, consisting of John Kingsley, Esq., J. C. Williams, Esq., the secretary of the Association, Rev. Brewin Grant (Independent), of Birmingham, and Archibald Prentice, Esq., of Manchester. Besides these gentlemen there were also present—Rev. Thomas Scales, Rev. A. M. Stalker, (Baptist), Rev. Robert Brewer, (Baptist), Rev. Anthony Gilbert, (Wesleyan Association), Councillors Town and Morgan, Wm. Bruce, Esq., J. N. Dickinson, Esq., R. Adams,

Esq., &c., &c. The large saloon, says the *Leeds Mercury*, was filled with a very attentive audience. On the motion of Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bruce, the Rev. Thomas Scales was unanimously called to the chair:—

The CHAIRMAN said, nothing could have come upon him more suddenly than the call to preside at that meeting, and as he had only just returned from a neighbouring town where he had been engaged in other business, he was quite unprepared to occupy the chair. Happily there would be little for him to do, there being those around him who would engage and interest their attention, and who would triumphantly advocate that cause they were then assembled to promote [hear, hear, and cheers]. This cause, he hoped, they all had at heart, the importance of it they all felt, and to the advancement of it they were willing to devote their time and their energies [applause]. They wished to assemble on those occasions not only Nonconformists, but also ministers and members of the Church of England [hear, hear]. The union of Church and State was one which, in their apprehension as Nonconformists, ought never to have existed—[hear hear]; the two, in their aims and objects, seemed to them entirely dissimilar, and utterly incompatible with each other, and they could not exist in their unnatural and heterogeneous alliance, without doing injury to each other [hear, hear].

The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. A. Gilbert, J. Kingsley, Esq., in an able and humorous speech, which elicited much applause, the Rev. A. M. Stalker, and the Rev. B. Grant. The last-named speaker, in allusion to a publication by Dr. Hook, in which he speaks of the Church of England as "our holy mother," proceeded in a most humorous search after the body of that Church:—

"Did the people ever see the lady, the dear and holy mother? The Puseyites would worship this holy mother, and if they were right the people could not be 'the Church,' for they could not be their own mothers and worship themselves [laughter]. If they went to Dr. Hook and asked to be introduced to their holy mother, they would be told by the rev. gentleman that he was not the old lady, but that he had received his appointment from this holy mother. If they went from him to the bishops, and asked if they were the holy mother, the reply was 'not at all,' they only taught the articles of their holy mother the Church [more laughter]. Go to the archbishops, and say 'We have heard of our holy mother; pity the lives we live, we cannot always be foundlings, we want to see our mother' [shouts of laughter]. The reply was that they were not the Church, but only rulers appointed by their holy mother. Next they went to the Queen; she was not the Church, but only the 'head of the Church' [peals of laughter]. Then they wanted to find the body of it, and after all, the clergy was that body, but it would not do for them to call themselves by that name. Thus they amalgamated themselves into one vast Mrs. Harris, and asked the people to worship her [cheers and laughter]. This was union of Church and State."

Mr. J. C. Williams supported the resolution, which, like the others, was carried unanimously. Mr. A. Prentice, of Manchester, after a few brief remarks, illustrative of the dangers and evils of State-pay to religion, as proved by the examples of the Scotch Presbyterians, moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman. Edward Smith, Esq., of Sheffield, seconded the motion, simply remarking that if the Dissenters had done as the Friends had long done, refused to pay for the support of a religion they disapproved of, there would have been no necessity for that meeting, as the union of Church and State would have been repealed long ago. The resolution was carried with acclamation and duly acknowledged. The meeting separated at ten o'clock.

BRADFORD.—A large and influential meeting of the friends of religious freedom, was held, in connexion with the Anti-Church and State Association, on Thursday evening, at the Temperance Hall. Mr. Alderman Forbes occupied the chair, and with a few pertinent remarks opened the meeting. The Rev. Dr. Acworth, in moving the first resolution, confined himself to a consideration of the question of Church and State, and said he was prepared to prove that the alliance had ever been productive of evil, and was still a source of mischief to the interests of humanity and religion. After the resolution had been seconded, it was ably and eloquently supported by the Rev. Brewin Grant, B.A., who successfully combated the arguments drawn from Scripture in favour of Church and State alliance, by the Rev. Mr. Gilmore, and others, and ably exposed the fallacy of the interpretation put upon such passages. The next speaker was the Rev. Dr. Godwin, who stated that, although not a member of the Anti-state-church Association, yet he was ever ready to lend his aid, with his humble efforts, to promote the cause of civil and religious liberty, as well as to extend the right hand of fellowship to a suffering brother, whosoever found, no matter to what denomination he may belong. He then proceeded to read an address of condolence and sympathy to the Rev. James Shore, as expressive of the unanimous feeling of the meeting, which the chairman (Mr. Alderman Forbes) kindly undertook to present in *propria persona*. John Kingsley, Esq., B.A., of London, next addressed the meeting in an eloquent and truly stirring speech, enforcing the necessity of all who regard religious liberty to bestir themselves, and, by a manly intelligence, proclaim, in their respective spheres, that they own no allegiance in religious matters to any civil authority which did not recognise Christ, the Founder of our religion, as the head of the Church [loud applause]. The attendance was very numerous—even to crowding—and high respectable. Upon the platform were nearly the whole of the Dissenting ministers of the town, and Messrs. Aldermen S. Smith, Brown, &c. &c. The thanks of the meeting being rendered to the deputation and the chairman, the large assembly separated, delighted with the proceedings. It was a meeting not soon to be forgotten.—*Leeds Times*.

HULL.—A meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held in this town, on Friday last, in the Music-saloon of the Mechanics' Institute, which was crowded by one of the largest audiences ever assembled in Hull; John Gresham, Esq., Alderman, took the chair, and was surrounded by most of the Dissenting ministers and leading laymen of the place. The Rev. Brewin Grant, Mr. Kingsley, and Mr. J. C. Williams, attended as a deputation, and in addition the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Smart, Jackson, and Benson, of Kelso. The Rev. Newman Hall, who has been from home, did not return till late in the evening. The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Williams, in relation to the case of Mr. Shore, which had been announced as one of the topics to be brought forward:—"That this meeting, while deeply sympathising with Mr. Shore, in whose person the principles of religious liberty have been grievously violated, regards his imprisonment as an additional illustration of the persecuting spirit of a State-church; and also finds in this and other ecclesiastical events fresh incentives to vigorous exertion to obtain the separation of the Church from the State." The speaker said, that while he had a strong opinion respecting the conduct of the Bishop of Exeter, he hoped they would direct their indignation, not so much against him as the system of which he was the instrument. State-churchmen who supported that system had no more right to fall foul of the agency for carrying it out, than a culprit on the gallows had to pick a quarrel with the hangman.

WAKEFIELD.—We had an excellent meeting of the Anti-state-church Association in this town, on Friday, March 23rd, when the Music-saloon, a very large room, was crowded. J. Skidmore, Esq., occupied the chair; and the Rev. Henry Toller, and Messrs. Kingsley and Williams, came as a deputation from the Committee of the Association; and the Rev. Messrs. Lorraine and Colcroft also spoke. The deputation, of course, spoke at length, and as they each took up a different part of the subject, the interest was kept up till the close. Mr. Higginson, the Unitarian minister, asked some questions as to the proposed mode of disposing of Church property, with the answers to which he professed himself to be satisfied.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.—A spirited meeting of the Anti-state-church Association was held here on Friday, March 23rd—Mr. Peter Hainsworth, a manufacturer, in the chair. The Rev. Henry Toller, and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, the Secretary of the Association, attended as a deputation, and were the principal speakers.

FARLEY, LEEDS.—An excellent lecture was delivered at Farley by John Kingsley, Esq., but it being a very wet evening, the audience was not large.

EVESHAM.—On Friday evening, March 30th, a public meeting of the Anti-state-church Association, was held at the Town-hall, Evesham; A. Martin, Esq., in the chair. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. J. Hookin, A. G. Fuller, and S. Green, the last of whom attended as a deputation from the Society, and delivered a powerful and luminous address, illustrative of the working of the State-church system and the objects of the Association.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—A series of interesting and enthusiastic meetings in this county was concluded by one at Evesham, on Friday last. Messrs. Green (of London), and Clapp (of Appledore), were the deputation; and the following are the towns at which meetings have been held, viz.,—Fairford, Stroud, Kingstanley, Stonehouse, Ebley, Wootton-under-Edge, Dursley, Pershore, Gloucester, Evesham.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE.—A crowded and influential meeting was held on Monday week, in the British school, to express sympathy with the Rev. James Shore, now in gaol, and to consider the best remedy for his and similar cases. Philip Le Gros, Esq., occupied the chair. The Revs. J. Green, of Walworth, and J. Clapp, of Appledore, were present as a deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association, who, with Major Biddel, the Revs. J. T. Feaston, B. O. Bendall, J. Watts, and T. Osborne, addressed the meeting. A deputation was appointed to wait upon Mr. Shore in prison, and a letter addressed to Grenville Berkeley, Esq., M.P., requesting him to give his most strenuous support to Mr. Bouverie's bill, and obtain, if possible, a clause by which clergymen who have already seceded from the Church of England, shall be freed from all penalty. The meeting was united and enthusiastic in condemning all ecclesiastical tyranny, and in viewing a total separation of Church and State as the only remedy.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—The Northern tour of the deputation has not yet terminated, Mr. Kingsley and Mr. Carvell Williams being announced to attend meetings this week at Beverley, Scarborough, York, and Huddersfield. They are also to visit Wisbeach and the neighbourhood before returning to London.

DISTRAINT FOR CHURCH-RATES, BURY.—On Thursday last, a distraint was made upon the goods of John Burd, Esq., of Radcliffe, for refusing to pay church-rates. Two cows were taken away from the works of this gentleman, and from the house four silver knives, together with a likeness of his deceased father, Mr. Alderman Burd, so long known and respected in this city.—*Manchester Examiner*.

CASE OF MR. SHORE.

THE VISIT OF THE LONDON DEPUTATION TO EXETER GAOL, MARCH 23, 1849.

The deputation entered the gaol about four o'clock on Wednesday, the 23rd of March. They found Mr. Shore in a room nearly square, four whitewashed walls, a small circular table, covered with letters of sympathy from every part of the kingdom, a bit of matting the length of the room and about a yard in width, with a bed in one corner. Two windows with iron railings let in sufficient light upon the prisoner to humble any Englishman, and to cover with shame every Christian who witnesses such an illustration of Christianity furnished by the laws, not of Jesus Christ, but of the Established Church of England, in the year of grace 1849. The deputation consisted of Sir Culling Eardley Eardley, Bart., Thomas Thompson, Esq., and the Revs. R. Ainslie, T. Binney, W. Bean, J. Hinton, and G. H. Stoddart. After an interchange of kind inquiries and of Christian sympathy, the deputation proceeded to discharge the duty devolved upon them by the great assembly convened in Exeter-hall, March 20, 1849.

The Rev. Robert Ainslie read the following verses from the 142nd Psalm (Prayer-book version), which were sung by the deputation, by Mr. Shore, and his wife and three daughters:—

To God at last I pray'd:
Thou, Lord, my refuge art;
My portion in the land of life
Till life itself depart.

Reduced to greatest straits,
To thee I make my moan:
Oh, save me from oppressing foes,
For me too powerful grown!

That I may praise thy name,
My soul from prison bring;
Whilst, of thy kind regard to me
Assembled saints shall sing.

A part of the 4th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles was read, and prayers were offered by the Rev. G. H. Stoddart and the Rev. Thomas Binney. The Rev. Robert Ainslie then read the following Address to the Rev. James Shore:—

ADDRESS.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned, being the representatives of a meeting held this day in Exeter-hall, London, composed of members of the Church of England, and of other Christian communities (and thus itself representing much of the religious feeling of the country), beg, on our own behalf, and on behalf of those whom we represent, to convey to you, in your present circumstances of persecution and imprisonment, the expression of our sincere respect and hearty confidence. We rejoice to assure you, a prisoner though you be, that we believe your character to be morally unimpeachable, as a man and a Christian; and that with respect to your ministerial struggle with your Diocese, it is our strong and earnest conviction that you are entitled to the thanks of all religious and right-hearted men.

We consider that while the course pursued towards you by the Bishop of Exeter has shown how a prelate has the power of persecuting a clergyman through the means of canons comparatively obsolete, and of ecclesiastical principles extensively repudiated, your conduct has displayed a desire and determination to expose and resist a legal immorality.

With respect to your refusal to pay the cost incurred by the Bishop in persecuting you, whatever may be thought of it by different classes of persons, we rejoice that, taken in connexion with the rest of your procedure, the result of it will be, to advance many great and important objects connected with the rights of conscience—the freedom of worship—the liberty of the subject—the disenthralment of the clergy—the securing to them the privilege of full religious and ecclesiastical inquiry—the utterance of their convictions—and the unobstructed embodiment of these in action.

Approving, as we do, of your manly, protracted, though expensive resistance to a civil wrong, inflicted under the guise of ecclesiastical discipline, we approach you with fraternal and friendly greetings, to tender to you the expression of our deep sympathy, while, at the same time, we congratulate you that you have been "counted worthy to suffer."

We assure you of our concurrence in what you have done, and of our support in what you may yet have to do, or to suffer; and declare that it is our determination to use such means as may seem best adapted, by God's blessing, to secure those objects, the pursuit of which by yourself has ended, so far, in your becoming the associate of those who, in former days, had, for Christ's truth, or Christian liberty, to suffer loss, spoiling, imprisonment, and bonds.

Be assured, dear Sir, that we regard your present situation as a glory rather than a disgrace; and we pray that, while it continues, you may be cheered and sustained by His presence, solace, and strength, who sent His angel to deliver Peter from prison, and who enabled Paul and Silas to sing in the stocks. From the heart of many a godly man—from around the hearth, and from the family altar, of many a devout Christian household—in many of the churches and sanctuaries of the land, have prayers been offered and are daily rising to God for you, even as prayer was continually made by the Church for the Apostle. In these prayers are not forgotten, nor do we forget, your wife and your children, to whom we tender the expressions of our Christian affection and warm sympathy—who, we believe, will ever remember, with glad and grateful hearts, the conduct of one so nearly related to them,—and whom, with yourself, in the name and as the representatives of myriads of British Christians, we commend to the keeping of the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, alike the Protector and Avenger of the faithful.

[Here follow the signatures of the Committee.]
Exeter-hall, London, March 20, 1849.

To which Mr. Shore, with deep feeling, returned the following

REPLY.

"I receive with the most lively satisfaction and deepest feelings of gratification the Address which you have now presented to me. An honour so great I never could have anticipated, as an address of sympathy and kindness, emanating from a meeting so vast, influential, and intelligent, and conveyed to me in a manner so truly gratifying to my feelings. Such important advocacy of the principles of religious freedom far more than compensates for any little personal inconvenience I may have experienced, and will tend to cheer me as long as I may continue in my present confinement. I especially value this demonstration as a token for good to my country. The simple fact of my imprisonment, is, in itself, a matter of little moment; it is only when viewed in connexion with the acting out of the principles which brought me here, that it emerges into importance; and I rejoice in this expression of the good-will of so many of my countrymen, as showing that they are not disposed to acquiesce in those so-called principles of Puseyism which are now threatening to deluge the land. While, however, I cannot but repudiate laws which fetter the preaching of the Gospel, I truly compassionate those who, by carrying them into execution, have brought me into my present position. To the members of the Deputation, and to those through whose kindness you have been commissioned to visit me in my prison, I have no words to express my deep feeling of thankfulness; and I

can only pray that that Divine Being may reward you a thousand-fold into your bosoms, who has taught us, that one characteristic of His approval, at the final day of decision, will be, "I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

JAMES SHORE.

The Gaol, St. Thomas, Exeter, March 28, 1849.

The Deputation, after remaining some time with Mr. Shore, adjourned to take part in the meeting to be held that evening in the Subscription-rooms, Exeter.

GREAT MEETING AT EXETER.—Nearly 3,000 persons met at Exeter on Wednesday night to express their sympathy for the Rev. James Shore, who still lies in the St. Thomas's prison, near that city. Sir Culling Hardley, Bart., occupied the chair; and in his opening address instanced an act relating to the Unitarian body and the recent act, with respect to certain gambling transactions, as precedents for the introduction of a retrospective clause into Mr. Bouverie's Clergy Relief Bill, which would have the effect of quashing the order of the Court of Arches in Mr. Shore's case, prohibiting from preaching, under pain of the consequences of contempt of that court. He called on the meeting to express with one heart and one voice their sympathy with Mr. Shore, and their respect for his character, observing that he could not understand the logic that because Mr. Shore was imprisoned for costs he was not imprisoned for preaching the gospel; it might as well be said that a chimney did not stand upon the ground; the chimney stood upon the top story, and the top story stood upon the first story, and the first story stood upon the ground; so, on preaching stood prosecution, on prosecution stood costs, and on costs stood imprisonment; and therefore, his friend Mr. Shore was imprisoned for preaching [cheers]. Referring to a suggestion that Mr. Shore should obtain relief under the Insolvent Debtors Act, the hon. chairman expressed his dissent from such a course, because Mr. Shore was now raised to such a pinnacle of honour that no dirt thrown at him could be by possibility stick, and therefore it was far better that 200,000 Englishmen should have the privilege of subscribing a penny each, and receiving a printed receipt, which he hoped would be nailed above their mantelpieces for the next half-century to come [applause]. Sir Culling concluded by claiming sympathy, respect, and gratitude, for Mr. Shore, for having resisted the most execrable of all tyranny—the tyranny on matters of religion. A resolution was unanimously passed, declaring "that this meeting desires to express its sympathy with the Rev. James Shore, at present confined in St. Thomas's Gaol, for non-payment of costs of an appeal in the case of 'Barnes v. Shore,' before the Committee of Privy Council, as such costs have been incurred solely from his publicly reading prayers, preaching, &c., in the chapel at Bridgetown, after taking the prescribed oaths as a Dissenting minister." A petition to Parliament was also adopted, praying for the speedy enactment of the Clergy Relief Bill, and for the insertion of a retrospective clause to secure clergymen, who have taken the oaths as Protestant Dissenting ministers, from all proceedings in respect of any breach of ecclesiastical discipline committed since their secession from the Church of England, and prior to the passing of the said Clergy Relief Bill.

CONTINUED PERSECUTION IN THE CANTON DE VAUD.—The last number of the *Archives du Christianisme* contains articles of recent information from the Swiss cantons of Neuchâtel and Vaud. One relates to the demission of another pastor, M. Guillebert, who had been pastor at Neuchâtel for thirty-five years, from the State-church. In a long farewell letter to his flock, he writes thus:—

A minister of Jesus Christ, the only Head of the Church which he has redeemed, I have always resisted, with all my might, a law which I regard as making us functionaries of the State. Accustomed to exercise my ministry in a free and independent National Church, I cannot make up my mind to exercise it in a church which the law now places, in so many respects, in a condition of dependence; and this at a time when churches so generally tend, on the contrary, towards the attainment of vital independence.

As for the Canton de Vaud, the news thence is unchangeably distressing. The *Archives* thus reports two of the most recent acts of the Vaudois Government:—"The Free Church of Ballaigues enjoyed great tranquillity. An inhabitant of the village be-thinks himself how he shall denounce it, and pretends that stones have been thrown at the house in which it assembles, for you must remember that the Christians of the Canton de Vaud are punished for acts of violence committed on them. The administration proceeds to an investigation. The municipality declare that there has not been any disorder. The Prefect sends up a most favourable report to the Council of State; but what answer does he get by return of post? An order to arrest the pastor of the Free Church of Ballaigues, M. Centurier, and send him back to his native commune! At Orbe, our brethren assembled peaceably on the 1st of January. An hour after the conclusion of the service, two wretches force their way into the house where the meeting had been held, break open the door of the apartment, where there are two aged and infirm ladies, benefactresses of these very persons, and throw the furniture of the room out at the windows. What, think you, followed that outrage? The exemplary punishment of the aggressors? No, but that of the victims. After instructions from the Council of State, this violation of the domicile, accompanied by the most aggravating circumstances, is considered as a trifling misdemeanor; an irregularity to be rectified by the police, but by no means a criminal delinquency. By virtue of the same in-

structions, the two ladies so shamefully attacked, are brought before the tribunal of Orbe, and deprived of the assistance of an advocate; for the Public Minister refused to appear, in order to frustrate their right of self-defence. Such is the Vaudois law! In short, these ladies are condemned, as well as M. Berthoud, who presided at the meeting! They are condemned for the crime of prayer, and this without any direct relation to the outrage they are accused of having suffered." Our contemporary details several other recent acts of grossest inhumanity and injustice perpetrated by the magistracy on Christian ministers and people, in direct and outrageous defiance of every form and principle of justice.

SECESSION OF THE REV. J. DODSON.—In a letter to the editor of the *Lancaster Guardian*, Mr. Dodson says:—"A paragraph in your paper of the 24th inst., is in error in stating that, before I resigned the vicarage of Cockerham, a proposal was made to the patrons to transfer it to another party. Some such proposal was made three years ago (not at all in connexion with the idea of secession), but has never since been revived or thought of; in fact, I should as much shrink from aiding to place another in an Establishment benefice, as to hold one myself. I may add that Mr. Gorham's views of Baptismal Regeneration are not, as asserted, mine: and further, that my secession is not, as also stated, principally connected with that question. As my reasons for secession seem to excite interest enough to be misrepresented in a great variety of quarters, it is probable that I may make them public."

THE FARMERS ON THE MOVE IN SUFFOLK.—On Friday night last, Mr. Vincent addressed a very crowded meeting in the Town-hall, Hadleigh. The Farmers' Club's usual meeting was postponed to enable the farmers to attend the meeting. On the motion of Caleb Hersey, Esq. (a large farmer), seconded by Mr. John Cook, draper, Mr. Hawkins, President of the Farmers' Club, amid loud cheers, was called to the chair. The chairman delivered a short effective speech, in the course of which he said that the time had come for farmers to attend to their own interests. In the name of the Farmers' Club, he cordially welcomed Henry Vincent among them, as the advocate of that which all farmers wanted, sound reform and retrenchment [loud cheers]. Mr. Vincent addressed the meeting for two hours, in favour of a large reduction of taxation, the abolition of all indirect taxes, and in support of a property tax; he warned the farmers against the men who pretended that protection could be restored; and then illustrated the interests opposed to all tax-payers. He maintained that a radical reform of the Parliament was wanted. He urged the farmers to regard Mr. Cobden as their best friend, and completely carried the meeting with him. The Rev. James Lyon moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Vincent, which was seconded by Isaac Everett, Esq. (a large farmer), and carried with three hearty cheers. The meeting was quite a triumph in the popular cause.

THE NAVIGATION-LAWS.—A very numerous meeting of gentlemen interested in the maintenance of the navigation-laws was held on Wednesday, in the Town-hall at Poplar; Mr. Richard Green, "an extensive shipowner and builder," presiding. Mr. Richardson urged the "mercantile interest to die with harness on their backs; and if they could not obtain justice from the House of Commons, to look to the House of Lords." Mr. Tudgay denounced "the whole of the Laboucheres and parties" as a "set of snakes in the grass." Mr. George Frederick Young was happy to see that the word "protection" could now be used at public meetings without risk that the persons using it would be hissed down. He had the honour of first pointing out to the great and good Lord George Bentinck the defects in the Board of Trade returns; he now indicated another suppression of the truth by them. Nothing was said in those returns of imports of cotton goods, linen goods, or woollen goods, because it was said that the declared value could not be ascertained; while he believed the real reason was, that it was feared the manufacturer would see that he was being competed with in their own market. Now, he found from the Customs returns on Saturday last, that on that day £2,400 worth of cotton goods were brought into this country; £1,750 of woollen goods; 4,460 pair of boot fronts; and probably that would account for the fact of 400 bootmakers being thrown out of employ by the masters of the West-end last week. At the same time, there were 8,268 pair of gloves introduced, and in the month of February no less than 299,447 pair. In addition to the articles he had mentioned, there were numbers of stockings, &c. entered; so that he would ask them, could they wonder at the distress of Leicester—could they wonder at the distress of Birmingham, there being a quantity of hard-ware introduced? He was told that on Saturday and Sunday last a hundred and sixty vessels entered the West India Docks laden with foreign corn. [A cry of "A hundred and eighty!"] He wished to be within the mark. As to public feeling, he would give the facts relative to the petitions presented on the subject. Up to the 23rd of the present month, there were only twelve petitions presented in favour of an alteration of the laws, signed by 3,156 persons; while there were 107 petitions against it, signed by 118,218; and of the twelve petitions for an alteration, he might mention that one came from Manchester, the hot-bed of Free-trade, containing 300,000 inhabitants, with only 376 signatures. Dr. Bowkett and some others attempted to support Free-trade views, "amidst considerable interruption;" their speeches are unreported. Protectionist resolutions were carried, "with one or two dissentients."

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

RECOGNITION OF THE REV. HENRY ROBERT REYNOLDS, B.A.—The services on the public recognition of the above gentleman as the pastor of the church and congregation at East Parade Chapel, Leeds, took place on Wednesday last, in the presence of a large audience, including from fifty to sixty Congregational Ministers, and many visitors from the neighbouring towns and villages. In the morning, after an introductory prayer by the Rev. Wm. Hudswell, the Rev. J. G. Miall, of Bradford, delivered a very able discourse on the nature of a Christian Church. The Rev. Thomas Scales then asked the usual questions of the church and the new pastor. An account of the proceedings of the church in giving the call to the pastor was read by Mr. John Wade, one of the deacons; and the Rev. Henry R. Reynolds gave an extremely interesting statement of his reasons for accepting the charge. The recognition prayer was then offered up by the Rev. John Reynolds, of Halstead, father of the young minister; after which the Rev. George Clayton, of London, addressed to him a charge founded on the text, "Who is sufficient for these things?" The morning service was then concluded in the usual manner. From three to four hundred ministers, visitors, and members of the congregation, took dinner together in the school-rooms; and in the evening there was a crowded congregation in the chapel, when the Rev. Thomas Raffles, D.D., LL.D., delivered an address to the church from Gal. vi. 10, "The household of faith;" and the Rev. James Parsons preached to the congregation from Numbers x. 32, "And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what goodness the Lord shall do to us, the same will we do unto thee." The whole of the discourses were marked by distinguished ability, and the proceedings were deeply interesting and impressive.—*Leeds Mercury*.

NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL.—NITON, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Tuesday, the 20th ult., the foundation-stone of this intended edifice was laid, under very favourable circumstances. The Rev. Thomas Morris, of Southampton, delivered an impressive address; and Edward Cruickshanks, Esq., and the pastor of the church, also took part in the ceremony. A few friends afterwards partook of a dinner, gratuitously provided by the promoters of the undertaking; and a goodly number were present at a tea-meeting in the afternoon. A public meeting was held in the evening, when the old chapel was well filled in every part. After singing and prayer, the minister of the place briefly adverted to the providential circumstances which had led the church thus far in their enterprise. The treasurer, Edward Cruickshanks, Esq., made a statement of the funds raised and expended; after which, the Rev. Messrs. Morris, of Southampton, and Medway, of Ventnor, Isle of Wight, and R. M. Wavell, Esq., M.D., of Newport, addressed the meeting. The collections made at the various meetings, including the promises received, realized about £25. The circumstances which have led to the building of this new chapel are as follows:—A few months since an application was made to Edward Dawes, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Niton, for a site on which to erect a school-house, with a view to establish a British School. A favourable reply was received from that gentleman, who proposed that the old chapel, which needed much repair, should be converted into a school-house; and offered a site for a new chapel in preference. This proposal has been accepted, and the necessary steps have been taken with a view to carry out the object. The friends of education in the neighbourhood have very generously subscribed towards the proposal. Three sums, of £50 each, and one of £10, have been contributed. A master and mistress have been obtained for the school, and £25 per annum promised, in subscriptions, towards their support. The parish of Niton, though containing a population of about 1,000 souls, has hitherto been destitute of any efficient means of education. In addition to his previous liberality, the Lord of the Manor has since made a grant of land for a burial-place, together with sufficient stone to build the chapel; besides defraying the costs of the conveyance-deed, and contributing £5 towards the general expenses. This gentleman is a pious Episcopalian, and is prompted to these acts of Christian kindness by the heathenish state in which this naturally lovely parish has been found. The total expense necessary to be incurred is estimated at £400, towards which upwards of £200 is already secured.

WELLING, KENT.—THE RECOGNITION OF THE REV. JOHN MAYSEY.—Most interesting services were held in the Independent Chapel, Welling, on Wednesday, March 28th, in connexion with this occasion. The Rev. George Verrall, of Bromley, opened the meeting by reading the Scriptures and prayer. The Rev. T. Timpson, of Lewisham, described, in a most lucid, argumentative, and practical manner, the scriptural character of a Christian church. After the usual questions were asked, the Rev. Dr. Carlile, of Woolwich, offered up the recognition prayer. The Rev. Dr. Jenkyn, President of Coward College, then delivered a most impressive and eloquent charge to pastor and people. The other devotions were conducted by the Rev. T. C. Finch, of London, and the Rev. H. Smith, of Dartford. The congregation was very numerous, and the services deeply interesting.

OPENING OF THE NEW SCHOOL-ROOM IN CONNEXION WITH THE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, TONBRIDGE.—On Tuesday evening, the 20th ult., 250 persons took tea in the above excellent room; after which addresses were delivered by the Rev. E. Thorley (Wealeyan), the Rev. J. Williams (minister of the place), and other friends—William Gorham, Esq.,

presided. The meeting was highly interesting; the proceeds of which, together with the sale of a few fancy articles, amounted to upwards of £15, a circumstance exceedingly gratifying and creditable to the members of the church and congregation, who have, with little foreign aid, within the last two years, at a former meeting, raised upwards of £25 by similar means, besides liberal contributions for the same important object, and defrayed the entire cost of rebuilding their chapel. "The people had a mind to work." A debt of about £80 remains, for the liquidation of which, organized efforts are being made, with the prospect of no very distant success.

Mr. JAMES WILLIAM LANCE has accepted the unanimous and cordial invitation of the Baptist Church at Houghton Regis, Beds, to the pastoral charge.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—MEETING AT IPSWICH.—A large and influential meeting was held on Tuesday se'nnight at Ipswich, to promote the abolition of the punishment of death. The meeting had been called by public announcement to receive Charles Gilpin, Esq., who has taken so active a part in the agitation of the question. The chair was taken by the worshipful the Mayor, and the commodious Town-hall was densely crowded in every part, several hundreds standing the whole time. The Mayor opened the meeting by a few brief remarks, and called upon Robert Ransome, Esq., to move the first resolution. This resolution, which was entirely condemnatory of capital punishment, was seconded by the Rev. E. Webb, and supported in an animated and argumentative speech by Mr. Gilpin. This speech was listened to with the deepest interest throughout, and at its close the resolution was put and unanimously carried amidst loud applause. The second resolution, which was moved by the late Mayor of the borough, and seconded by Mr. T. Beggs (late secretary of the Health of Towns Association), was also carried unanimously, and after a cordial vote of thanks to the Mayor and to the gentlemen from London, the proceedings terminated.

THE LADY WHO REFUSED TO TAKE AN OATH.—Mrs. Watson, who was committed to prison by Mr. Justice Williams for refusing to be sworn as a witness in a case of felony, has been released by order of the Court.

MALDON, Essex.—On Thursday and Saturday evenings last, Mr. Henry Vincent addressed two meetings in the Cromwell-hall of this town, on the Taxation question and Parliamentary Reform.

"COUNTY RATE REFORM," a cry with which the agricultural shire of Northumberland once resounded, has since been taken up by the manufacturing county of Lancaster, and is countenanced by its representatives in Parliament, Messrs. Brown, Henry, Heywood, and Patten. The leaders of the movement have been in London, lately, waiting upon members of the present and past Government, and upon statesmen who looked forward to being members of a future Government, endeavouring (and with apparent success) to impress them with a conviction of the necessity of an administrative change in our counties. They propose the formation of County Boards (as recommended by the Parliamentary commission of 1846), composed, in equal numbers, of magistrates and guardians. Lord John Russell assured them of his approval of the principle of the measure, but said the hands of the Government were full; if, however, a bill should be introduced by a private member, it should have the careful consideration of himself and his colleagues. This suggestion they have adopted. Mr. Hume is to introduce a bill—probably before Easter; and the friends of County Reform, everywhere, should now bestir themselves, and assist in the enactment of a measure founded upon the constitutional principle of representation. — *Gateshead Observer.*

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS IN SCOTLAND.—Amidst the present outcry about agricultural distress, it is wonderful, and still more true than wonderful, that every farm that comes into the market is relet at an advance of rent. We have seen it repeatedly stated within these few weeks that this is the case in England; and we know the fact that it is the case at least in this district of Scotland. Among the farms let in the Lothians during the last three months, we have heard of only one case in which there was not an advance on the old rent, and that one case was unimportant, and the diminution trifling. We specify two or three cases, premising that all have been let on nineteen years' leases, and on the expiry of leases of the same duration. Balgownie Barns, a rise of ten per cent. on the old rent. Spittal, from £2 9s to £2 14s. 2d. an acre (estimating the highest rates for wheat at 50s.), or, in round numbers, ten per cent. North Berwick Mains, a rise of nine per cent. North Berwick Abbey, a slight rise. Redside, not known exactly, but understood to be about ten per cent. above old rent. These are all extensive farms, with no peculiarities rendering them unfair instances, and have all but one been let since harvest, and three of them since the new year. We should like to know of any species of property but land that can at this time show an improvement of ten per cent. over the value at which it has stood during the preceding twenty years.

RAILWAYS IN INDIA.—The *Times* contains the definite terms and conditions to be granted by the Indian Government to the East Indian and Great Peninsular Railway Company. The terms are even more favourable than was generally expected, and the *Times* says they will give full satisfaction to all parties. £500,000 will be allowed for the section from Bombay to Callan, with a further £500,000 should the Government engineer report in favour of the extension of the undertaking.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. THORN'S REMARKS ON MR. SPENCER'S NEW TRACT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—About nine years ago, an American, on a visit to this country, put to me the following question, "Have you perfect faith in the principle of Universal Suffrage?" and on my replying, "I have," he said, "You may indeed place full reliance upon it, and you have nothing to fear from it." On this faith I have acted; and, some years ago, I united with Mr. Heyworth, Mr. Bright, and others, under the auspices of Joseph Sturge, in order to obtain complete suffrage for the people. You took an active part in that movement; and you will remember how favourable were our prospects of success. You will also remember that a sudden check was given to the movement by certain advocates of similar principles, under a name and a leader in whom the middle classes could not confide. The Complete Suffrage Conference at Birmingham was one of the most important conferences ever witnessed in this country; but, by the determination of those men to force upon it the Charter and Mr. F. O'Connor, it was rendered powerless; and the Complete Suffrage Movement, with which the middle classes were being rapidly identified, was suspended, and working men lost the services of their most faithful friends. Thus was a victory gained on behalf of class legislation and excessive taxation, and the people have not yet recovered from the discouragement. I trust it will be a salutary warning to all who may in future seek the extension of the suffrage, not to fight with friends from whom they may happen to differ a little, but to bring all their strength to bear upon those parties from whom they differ altogether.

In the Temperance Movement, similar evils have arisen from the conduct of men who preferred party spirit or individual interests to the common good. In many parts of England, Temperance Societies, once most promising, have disappeared, in consequence of petty jealousies among their leaders, and foolish disputes about the length of a pledge, and other minor details. In the meantime, the seller of liquor looked on and laughed; and the drunkard, whom any pledge of total abstinence, under any leader, would have saved, was left to perish.

A writer in your paper of last week appears inclined to pursue a similar policy on the subject of Church Reform. Although he confesses his belief in my earnest desire to reform every abuse in Church and State, yet, because the measures I have propounded in my "Letter to the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel" differ from the views he entertains, without waiting to examine my arguments, but on the strength of a few quotations which appeared in your review, he rushes into your columns, and passes sentence of condemnation. That Mr. Thorn had not seen the tract, is clear from his stating that I am perpetual curate of Hinton; that I am still performing the parochial duties, and receiving the income; and from other internal evidence. Whereas, had he read it, he would have known that I have given up that living more than a year; and that I am not receiving any ecclesiastical emolument whatever. I have, however, sent Mr. Thorn one of these tracts by the post, that he may no longer be in the position of one who "answereth a matter before he heareth it."

With respect to your own remarks, the subject is too important to allow any reply to be introduced at the end of this letter. At another time I will devote a letter to it, if you deem it desirable; but I think there is a better way. There are thousands who desire to form correct opinions upon such subjects as well as ourselves, and an amicable discussion before a public audience of Churchmen and Dissenters would enable them to weigh the objections and the answers; and the discussion might afterwards appear in your paper, so that both those who were present, and those who could not attend, might approximate to a unity of opinion. Were I now resident in London I should not object to an immediate discussion of the question which you have well called "Reform or Secession." The work of Church Reform must be the work of many, and therefore the sooner the many think together and speak together, the sooner will they become of one accord and of one mind as to the means to be used and the ends to be accomplished.

When I first contemplated the giving up of Hinton, my intention was to remain a few months at Bath, hearing the clergy preach, and observing the condition of the Church with the more impartial eyes of an unbeneficed clergyman. Then I proposed to pay a short visit to Rome, and afterwards to take up my abode in London, and devote myself to the work of Church Reform. Unforeseen circumstances have prevented my visit to Rome, and have induced me to remain longer at this place; but at Midsummer I propose to remove from Bath to London, and when there, I shall be happy to submit the great question of "Reform or Secession" to the investigation of a candid audience.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Bath, April 2nd, 1849. THOMAS SPENCER.

OUR VILLAGE POPULATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg leave to thank you for the article on the state of our village population, and also to request the favour of your thinking of us again as early as in justice to other claims you are able to do so.

We much need your help, for we village folks are sadly behind the spirit of the age in all that is really good either of an intellectual, moral, or spiritual character, and we are frequently at our wits' end to know how to better this state of things. The scenery of nature in the village locality is very lovely, and every prospect pleases, but the dreary mental and moral waste oppresses the spirit and saddens the heart.

In the village in which I live the population is about 600 souls. There is found (of course) a commodious church, and there is also a neat Baptist chapel. Both these places of worship are well filled, and in them is Jesus Christ taught, but in vain we look for the good that should be effected. There is the beer-shop as well filled as ever, and the village cross-way ornamented as thickly as ever with fools who mock at sin, waiting to salute the passing stranger with no pleasing salutation, and whose employment is the seduction of younger associates to the commission of folly and vice.

I speak of the village in which I live, and other villages surrounding are no better. Yet are our churches (I mean parish churches) filled with evangelical men—my Lord Wriothesley Russell, the Rev. Messrs. King, Brookin, Dennis—gentlemen of high standing and moral worth. This locality abounds also with schools of all sorts, supported chiefly by the liberality of the Cavendishes, the Russells, and the Ryders. All this is very well, but surely some good should appear; some *moral*, if not *religious* improvement should be accomplished. As for the old-fashioned idea of the conversion of souls, it is merely the history of by-gone days—a thing of olden times. We expect no such occurrence; and if bad men were becoming good ones, "ceasing to do evil, and learning to do well," astonishment would possess our souls. The thing would be almost incomprehensible.

However, my dear sir, amidst all that is discouraging, there is much to excite to labour and devotedness. There are many willing to receive instruction and grow better, did we but know the secret *how* to gain and secure their attention.

I beg, therefore, that some of your good friends, who have had a little experience in these matters, will teach us what to do, and *how* to do it. Then may we hope to demonstrate the truth that the rude folks of the village do become useful and redeeming members of society.

I am, sir, yours truly,

A VILLAGE SUBSCRIBER.
Flaunden, Hertfordshire, March 30, 1849.

EDUCATION IN WALES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Knowing that parliamentary and other intelligence relative to the important movements of the day forbid much space in your paper for small talk, I shall only beg permission to express my joy at finding my friend, the Rev. D. Lloyd, of Carmarthen, once more like himself. His letter in your paper of the 21st inst. bears evident marks of his usual candour; and the point in dispute between us has been reduced by him into such a tangible and manageable form, that each intelligent and impartial reader of your paper may easily decide for himself, by referring to our former letters. Whether I garbled his sentences, misapprehended his assertions, or misconstrued his language, or not, is a point which may be settled by your readers. I humbly think that I only made my friend to repeat in my letter what he plainly and unequivocally asserted in his own; but as there is a difference of opinion, and that difference on his part amounting to a virtual withdrawal of the assertions which I understood him to have made, there is no dispute between us as to the state of opinion in reference to education in Wales.

I agree with Mr. Lloyd that no self-constituted body has a right to set themselves forth as the only "legitimate educationists" of Wales. But I assert that every body of men has a right to consider themselves legitimate educationists, as long as they confine themselves to voluntarism, and no longer. Mr. Lloyd and his friends have no right to tax me against my will to promote his views.

Yours,
Llanelly, March 27, 1849.

BRITISH CONNEXION WITH IDOLATRY AT POOREE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—We shall be much obliged by your inserting in the *Nonconformist*, the following resolution, unanimously passed, January 6th, 1849, at the annual conference of the Orissa Baptist Missionaries, held at Cuttack.

"Resolved,—That we cannot separate without again recording our solemn conviction, that the continuance by the Government of India, of the annual donation to the temple at Pooree, is not only entirely unnecessary, as it has been admitted by competent authorities, after the most careful examination of official documents, that no pledge whatever exists for the continuance of such donation, but that it is a heinous sin, in the sight of Him by whom 'kings reign and princes decree justice,' directly or indirectly to support idolatry; and that we most respectfully but earnestly implore the enlightened rulers of this country, the blessings of whose rule we cheerfully admit, and for the protection enjoyed by whose government we are sincerely thankful, to withdraw from all connexion with idolatry and its polluted shrines, but especially from the shrine at Pooree, the pilgrimage to which has been the occasion of incalculable suffering and destruction of life, and the worship at which is associated with everything abhorrent to God, and degrading to man."

We are, Sir,
Yours very faithfully,
CHACEY. WM. BROOKS,
J. STUBBINS, JOHN BUCKLEY,
H. WILKINSON, W. BAILEY,
O. R. BACHELER, WM. MILLER.

OUR CIRCULATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR,—As you have inserted in your last paper my suggestion relating to the distribution of the *Nonconformist* amongst Churchmen, I judge that you may approve of the plan, and I therefore take the liberty of addressing to you a few additional thoughts.

After posting my note to you, I regretted that I had written and sent it off so hastily, and had not amplified the subject rather more, so as to place my views more fully and more fairly before your readers.

I feel strongly upon this subject, assured that great good might be effected if the suggestion I made was fully carried out by a well-organized and systematic effort. I doubt not that some of your readers will take the hint, and send their papers to Churchmen of their acquaintance, but my idea fully expressed goes much farther than that. Could not a committee of twenty-four gentlemen, your friends, be formed to carry out the plan fully? If £500 annually could be raised for that purpose, I reckon that about 600 Churchmen, bishops, clergy, and lay, could be supplied with your paper regularly. And all these might be selected from men of intelligence in London and in the principal towns in the kingdom. If this sum of £500 could not be raised at the outset, no difficulty would be found in raising for the first year one or two hundred pounds as an experiment.

If such a society should be formed, and Baptist Noel could be induced, as well as yourself, to address a series

of suitable articles to clerical and lay Churchmen, who could doubt for a moment that the result would be glorious?

Would that all thoughtful, intelligent, pious Churchmen could have read the masterly essays which have already appeared in your journal—essays written for and addressed to Churchmen, but read almost exclusively by Nonconformists! This fact it is that I have often been led to ponder and lament, and not only concerning the efforts put forth by yourself, but respecting others also in their various attempts to promulgate right principles. Need this be any longer the case? We cannot expect to influence for their good the fox-hunting clergy, who care much more about the prosperity of their turf clubs than about the prosperity of Christ's kingdom; or those who, in various other respects, are "wolves in sheep's clothing;" but let us seek out the Noels and the Shores of the State-paid Church, for, corrupt as it is as a whole, there are many such men in it who are waiting and longing and praying for direction, enlightenment, and deliverance from the thralldom in which they find themselves. I once saw an innocent little kitten in a wire rat-trap; and the situation of these poor good men reminds me of that circumstance. Such men need encouragement and friendly aid from without; let us lift up the door of the trap and let them out. If, in their own studies, they could read and digest the excellent arguments which your paper frequently contains, how much better would be the effect than we sometimes witness when such men are addressed in the heat of debate from the platform—sometimes in the shape of banter and ridicule: these latter appeals have a bad effect. When properly appealed to, I doubt not that many would be led to follow in the footsteps of Baptist Noel; and then, if the shepherds be influenced to lead in the right way, how many thousands amongst their flocks would gladly follow them! And now is the time—now that Noel's Essay is being read so extensively—now that Shore is in prison, and "Exeter" is on his trial!

And, my dear Sir, if you had reason to believe that by a wise and wide distribution, your articles on the State-paid Church would meet the eye of such men, would it not give a fresh impetus to your mind and thoughts, and make your pen yet more as the pen of a ready writer? And you would be stimulated to write such essays as would be most effective. You would feel that you were writing, not so much about Churchmen, as to them.

The facilities for carrying out the plan I propose are now immense, and very easy, the delivery of your paper, by postage, to all parts of the country, costing not one farthing; and the names and address of all the bishops and clergy are registered, so that, by careful enquiry, you might choose your men, and the men most likely to be favourably influenced by statements of truth—thoughtful, intelligent, pious Churchmen. To such men "the truth should be spoken in love," and in love only! Only let such men come out of the State-paid Church, and it would soon fall to pieces of its own rottenness: the gold being drawn off, the dross only would remain. Only let all be done as unto the Lord, and for the prosperity of the cause of Christ—only let the weapons of our warfare be not carnal, but those which Christ has selected for our use—such as will be mighty, through God, to the pulling down of Satan's strong holds.

That we may be Christ-like in all our treatment of our erring brethren, let all wrath, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from us; then, having the glory of God, and the good of our fellow-men, simply in view, see if God would not pour us down a blessing, and make his work to prosper in our hands. Not until Christ's servants wear his bright and clean armour, and fight only with his weapons, will he grant them a victory.

March 31st, 1849.

S. B.

THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Under the heading of "The People's League" you have reported a speech of mine, made at a meeting of the Council; your reporter, in abridging what I did say, has not correctly embodied my words or meaning with respect to the "Lambeth Association." I did not say that they (meaning the whole body) had not moral courage to come out upon the suffrage; but that a small minority, while they believed in the principle, feared that the people were not yet ripe for the question; but the majority nobly appealed to the men of Lambeth, and were warmly responded to.

I feel it is but an act of justice to the gentlemen of the Lambeth Association to correct this error, being satisfied that they are up to the mark, not only upon the suffrage, but upon the Anti-state-church question: would that every borough had such a band of men.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
J. THWAITES.

Newington-place, Kennington-common.

Catholic Treves, with its "holy coat," was not more excited than is Protestant Berlin, with its inspired girl, by whose side an angel sits and endows her with healing powers.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.—Mr. J. Lace, jun., of Ulverston, who a few weeks ago slipped into a mass of molten iron ore, at the Powka-beck Iron-works, died on Sunday night week, after lingering from the date of the occurrence in great agony. He was 25 years of age.

KILLING BY THE HANGMAN AT SALISBURY.—John Smith, convicted of the murder of Eleanor Lawrence, was hung at Salisbury yesterday week. He persisted to the last in withholding all information as to his real name, saying he had parents living, and sisters and brothers, whom he did not wish to know his ignominious end. At twelve he mounted the scaffold with a quick step and a smiling countenance, and desired the executioner to hurry. When, however, the cap was drawn over his face, he requested the executioner to let him have another look at the crowd, which being complied with, he almost immediately added, "That will do," and the drop fell within a minute or two. The crowd in front of the gaol was immense, exceeding any that had been witnessed there on a similar occasion.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

DEBATE ON ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

The National Assembly of France was engaged in discussing the affairs of Italy on Friday and Saturday. On the former day, M. Bixio stated that the Committee of Foreign Affairs had keenly felt the deep emotion produced in the Assembly by the communication made on Wednesday by the President of the Council relative to Italy. The Report he was instructed to present to the Assembly was as follows:—

The National Assembly, jealous of securing the preservation of the two greatest interests confided to it, the dignity of France, and the maintenance of peace founded in respect for nationalities, and concurring in the language held in the sitting of the 28th by the President of the Council of Ministers, confiding also in the government of the President of the Republic, declares that, if the better to guarantee the integrity of the Piedmontese territory, and protect the interests and honour of France, the executive power should think it necessary to give force to the negotiations, by the partial and temporary occupation of any point of Upper Italy, it would find in the National Assembly the most sincere and cordial co-operation.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys, Minister for Foreign Affairs, then communicated to the Assembly the latest accounts from Turin. M. Drouyn de Lhuys added, that the French Government would exert itself to maintain the integrity of the Sardinian territory, as well as the interest and dignity of France. With that view, it would apply to the Assembly for the necessary powers and means, and concur with readiness and gratitude in any resolution like that prepared by the Committee of Foreign Affairs. The conduct of the French Government had been both prudent and energetic. It had communicated to the Cabinet of Vienna the apprehensions inspired by the occupation of the Sardinian territory, and the indication of the measures the French Government intended to adopt. The Austrian Government had spontaneously given the Minister of France the most pacific assurance. Prince Schwarzenburg had, on the 23rd, disclaimed all idea of conquest, and assured the French Minister that he was only anxious for peace. Drouyn de Lhuys said a few words in praise of Charles Albert, which were received with loud murmurs by the Members of the extreme Left. The Minister turning towards that side, exclaimed:—"When the son of that Monarch had his cloak pierced with sixteen bullets, a celebrated agitator secretly fled from Turin" [laughter and applause]. France, he maintained, had given Charles Albert the most prudent advice. She had told him that the language of his Government towards Austria was a provocation, that he must not expect to draw France on a field of battle by any hostile measure, and that, if he attacked the Austrians, France would not follow him. Such had been the caution given by General Cavaignac to that Prince, and the present Cabinet had continued the policy of its predecessor by confining itself to offer a diplomatic assistance.

M. Ledru Rollin justified the foreign policy of the Provisional Government.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys announced that the Government accepted the resolution presented by the Committee of Foreign Affairs.

M. Flocon declared that he could not concur in the resolution, as it implied confidence in a Cabinet which he distrusted. He accordingly proposed the following order of the day:—

The Assembly persisting in its resolution of the 24th of May, 1848, invites the Government to take measures to guarantee the emancipation of Italy [murmurs].

General Baraguay d'Hilliers thought both resolutions would involve the country in difficulties, which it was necessary to avoid, and moved the simple order of the day.

A division having been called for, there appeared—For the simple order of the day, 327; against it, 442. The simple order of the day was thus rejected by a majority of 115 votes.

The President announced that M. Payer proposed to modify the proposition of M. Bixio, and to reduce it to the following terms:—

The National Assembly declares that if, the better to guarantee the integrity of the Piedmontese territory and the preservation of the interest of France, the executive power should consider it advisable to give force to the negotiation by a partial and temporary intervention in Italy, it will find the most eager concurrence in the National Assembly.

On Saturday, the discussion was renewed, when General Cavaignac and M. Thiers, both deprecated armed intervention. The latter said:—

I think, as regards your policy, you have allowed the critical moment to escape when Austria was vanquished by the arms of Piedmont; and now you desire to do, Austria being victorious, what you hesitated to do ten months since. As to the policy of General Cavaignac, I have but to bestow on it my commendation. The Italians demanded of France intervention, and with all circumstances to favour it, General Cavaignac resisted the demand. Had he done otherwise, in two months he would have had the whole of Europe on his hands. You have lost the finest opportunity of intervention and negotiation, and you now ask to enter into Italy to sustain the disturbers of order who could not defend it. You demand to throw the rising generation of France into the battle-field of Italy without having the courage to say so. What we have now to do in Italy is to avoid war being carried to its extreme limits, and to prevent the reaction which may result from the defeat of the Piedmontese army. You desire to negotiate and to guarantee the integrity of the Piedmontese kingdom—and by what means? By occupying a part of the territory when Austria occupies another part. I confess the means seems to me to be amusingly conceived.

The Ministerial amendment of M. Bixio, modified by Payer Lemand, was adopted by 444 to 320.

CONVICTION OF M. PROUDHON.—The verdict of the jury upon the trial of M. Proudhon, as director, and of M. Duchéne, as *gérant* of *Le Peuple*, for the

articles which appeared in that paper on the 26th and 27th of January last, has been a fine of 3,000 francs and three years' imprisonment for M. Proudhon, and a fine of 1,000 francs and one year's imprisonment for M. Duchéne.

NORTHERN ITALY.

DEFEAT AND ABDICATION OF CHARLES ALBERT.

The advices from Italy announce that Charles Albert has been routed in two battles by Marshal Radetzky, and is a fugitive from his own dominions. The two armies were drawn up on the two banks of the Ticino—the Piedmontese army in a long weak line covering nearly the whole of his Lombard frontier, the Austrian army in a compact line near the centre of this position. On the 21st instant, each army made forward movements—the King's towards Milan, and the Marshal's towards Turin; the Piedmontese line became compromised; the King was forced to fight a battle near Vercelli, with inferior numbers and no guns; he was worsted, and driven back towards Turin. On the 23rd, a second battle was fought at Novarra, which lasted from morning till night; the Piedmontese fought with tenacious courage and efficiency, but were overpowered, and driven in a state of disorganization towards the Alps.

The following information on the events which then ensued was given by the ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs to the French National Assembly, on Thursday:—The first despatch he read was dated the 25th of March, six o'clock p.m., and was written by M. Bois le Comte. The Piedmontese Government had applied to M. Abercrombie and himself, and requested them to interfere with Marshal Radetzky, and prevail upon him not to enter Turin. They had consented, but previous to their departure they had waited on Prince de Carignan, Lieutenant-Governor of the Kingdom, who renewed that invitation. The two Ministers had requested the Prince to consult the Cabinet, and, the latter having furnished them with a regular document, they agreed to leave for Novarra at midnight, bringing with them the Syndic of Turin. They merely undertook to stipulate in favour of the security of the capital, leaving the new King to negotiate peace with the Marshal, to whom he had already made overtures. A few persons at Turin spoke of opposing a desperate resistance, but this was not the sentiment of the mass of the population, who desired order and peace. On the 26th of March, the Secretary of Legation announced the departure of the British and French Ministers, the abdication of Charles Albert, and the conclusion of an armistice by the new King, in virtue of which the Austrians were not to cross the Sesia. He next communicated to the Assembly a letter, dated the 27th, written by M. Bois le Comte, on his return from Novarra. M. Bois le Comte announced that the armistice had been ratified with eagerness by Marshal Radetzky, who had directly treated with King Victor Emmanuel. The armistice was to continue until the conclusion of peace. The Austrians were to remain on the left bank of the Sesia, and the fortress of Alexandria was to be occupied by a garrison composed one-half of Austrians, and the other of Piedmontese. The Lombards corps were to be disbanded, but the King might retain individuals of that nation in his service. Nothing had been stipulated with regard to Tuscany. Marshal Radetzky was most anxious to quit Piedmont, and if he insisted on the partial occupation of Alessandria, it was to have a guarantee in his hands until the Piedmontese army should be reduced to the peace standing.

Among the generals and other officers killed around Charles Albert and his sons, were Generals Durando and Passalacqua, and General Duperron, a French officer, who commanded at Lyons under Louis Philippe. The last was mortally wounded, and died at Novarra, whither his wife went to him, passing through the midst of the Austrians.

The new King of Sardinia, Victor Emmanuel, entered Turin on the 27th ult., amidst joyful demonstrations.

Private letters from Turin announce that on the 27th the new ministry entered on its functions. It is thus composed:—MM. de Delaunay, Foreign Affairs; Pinelli, Interior; Cristiani, Justice; Nigra, Finances; Mamelli, Public Works; La Bormida, War and Marine. On the 27th, the chamber voted an address, full of admiration and gratitude to Charles Albert.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* contradicts the statement that the entire Piedmontese army was completely routed on the 23rd, and that the battle was lost in consequence of General Chzarnowsky having left his artillery behind him. The fact is, the battle which forced Charles Albert to abdicate in favour of his son, the Duke of Savoy, was fought on the 24th, between Novarra and Vercelli. It was commenced by General Chzarnowsky, who was at first successful. He recovered the position he had previously lost, but Marshal Radetzky, having with consummate skill concentrated his entire force, consisting of 60,000 men, on one point, the Piedmontese line was broken, and one division, commanded by the Duke of Savoy, was driven to Bielle, at the foot of the Alps, and the other, under the command of Chzarnowsky, to Borgo-Manero. The Piedmontese Generals, Perrone and Pasulacqua, both men of large hereditary fortune in Piedmont, were killed.

An officer serving on the staff of Charles Albert states, that it was not until the 25th that the Piedmontese were defeated. They fought with the most desperate courage, and Novarra was taken and retaken not less than five times. The greater number of the Piedmontese generals and officers were killed or dangerously wounded. The present King exposed himself like a simple captain of cavalry, and

was wounded. The writer of the letter attributes the loss of the campaign to the treachery of General Ramorino, who, he alleges, had communicated the plan of the campaign to Marshal Radetzky, and by that means enabled him to defeat it. An individual named Peste, Secretary to General Ramorino, has been arrested. General Chzarnowsky is said to have blown out his brains in despair. "Would to God," says the writer of the letter alluded to, "he had done so before the commencement of the campaign."

Our own correspondent at Turin, (says the *Daily News*), writes us on the 28th that Ramorino had been brought a prisoner to Turin, and would most probably be shortly tried and shot. He says that of the late Piedmontese army there now remains only about 25,000 men.

The attitude of the population, he continues, is calm and sorrowful. The disinclination of the army to combat for their country, even when occupied by an enemy, fills the majority with shame, as well as bitter regret. This feeling is of course strongest in the minds of the officers and soldiers yet remaining here, and in that of the really patriotic amongst the liberals; for all those so named were not animated with the love of their country, but rather with a thirst for power or place, which they hoped to attain by noisy and ostentatious display of affected Italianism, and liberality. Such are now at a great discount.

The Sardinian Chamber of Deputies held a meeting on the night of the 27th, at which it declared itself *en permanence*. It invited the Ministry to concentrate all the forces of the kingdom under the walls of Alessandria, and proclaimed the country in danger, and decreed that the Ministry who should permit an Austrian garrison to enter Alessandria, or recall the Sardinian fleet from the Adriatic, would be guilty of high treason.

ROME.

CONSPIRATORS AT GAETA.

We extract the following from a letter dated, Rome, 12th ult.:—On the 5th inst., in the town of Spello, the commissaries of the Roman Republic seized in the monastery of St. Andrew numerous papers exposing the machinations of the conspirators at Gaeta. A quantity of daggers, pistols, muskets, and ammunition, were also captured on the premises. These, as well as the papers, were conveyed to Fuligno, and with three of the most compromised inmates of the said monastery, were delivered over to the tribunal of that district. I annex a faithful copy of one of the circulars from Gaeta, from which you will be able to form a just criterion of the nature of the papers seized, and will no doubt appreciate the charitable and christianlike feelings of these writers:—

Circular, 167, R.P.—Alfa.—Beloved Brethren,—The God of Mercy, before granting his children the glory of Paradise, loves to see them earn the laurels of martyrdom. The calamities and vicissitudes which at present assail humanity and our holy religion render it imperative upon you, beloved brethren, to combine all that lies within reach of the power we have invested you with, in order to vindicate our violated rights and smother the machinations of our enemies. Liberals, Jacobins, Carbonaris, Republicans, are names that have but one meaning and but one end, viz., the destruction of our religion, and the ruin of its ministers. But we, on the contrary, must hurl our enemies to perdition, and disperse to the winds even the ashes of their race. Continue, therefore, your accustomed zeal, and cultivate the mind of your brethren and of the inhabitants of your district as you have hitherto done. Tell them not to fail, on the sound of the bells, to hurry to the sacred convention, when each of us must be ready to plunge our steel without mercy into the breasts of these profanators of our holy religion. Reflect upon the vows that we pledge to the Most High: they are—that we will exterminate to the very last of our foes, not excepting even their infants, so as to save ourselves from that vengeance which they might one day exercise against our holy altars. In short, take you care that, when we raise the cry of reaction, every one of you be ready to echo it without fear. Already have we provided for your recompense.

Gaeta, Feb. 15.—To the Rev. P. Rossi.

Here follow the names of commissaries and witnesses.

The *Corriere Mercantile* of Genoa, of the 24th, states from Rome, that when in the sitting of the Constituent Assembly Mazzini began to speak of the sacrifices the war would call for, a shower of earrings and jewels fell from the tribune reserved for the ladies.

The *Nazionale* of Florence states that the Roman National Assembly has prorogued itself, leaving a dictatorial power in the hands of the present triumvirate.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

REJECTION OF THE ULTIMATUM.

By accounts from Palermo to the 20th March, we learn that the reply of the Sicilian Government to the ultimatum was transmitted on the 10th to the English and French Ambassadors by the Admirals, and the latter had notified to the Sicilians that if the King of Naples should not approve of its tenour, they must consider the notice of ten days before the rupture of the armistice to commence on the 19th. Most angry feelings were evinced against the English and French, who were denounced as the abettors of the King of Naples and the deceivers and betrayers of Sicily; and the preparations for a desperate resistance were continued with a degree of energy which is described as "perfectly astounding," leaving but faint hopes of the possibility of an amicable arrangement.

CENTRAL GERMANY.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

The National Assembly elected, on the afternoon of the 28th ult., the King of Prussia as Emperor of the Germans. 290 members voted for the motion

conferring the imperial dignity on his Prussian Majesty, and 248 refrained from taking any part in the proceedings. A deputation of thirty members was chosen to convey the intelligence to the King of Prussia.

The Assembly received on the 29th ult. the official information that the Archduke John had resigned the post of vicar of the German empire, "on account of existing circumstances." In a letter addressed to Baron von Gagern, his Imperial Highness expresses the wish that he (the Archduke) may be released from the duties of his office, so soon as that release can be effected without injury to the tranquillity and welfare of Germany. The House then adjourned till the 4th of April.

AUSTRIA.

THE WAR IN HUNGARY.

It is stated in Berlin, that Russian garrisons are to be put in the frontier towns of Hungary. It is further said that, in consequence of Bem's victory at Hermannstadt, 20,000 more Russians have entered Transylvania. A corps of insurgents, numbering about 2,500, attempted a descent upon Galicia at Also-Veröczke, but were driven back by Baron von Barco, with four companies of infantry and the landstrum, with a loss of 130 killed and wounded, and 167 prisoners. Horrors are told of the sack of Hermannstadt by Bem's exasperated troops, who wreaked upon the inhabitants with fire and sword the most implacable vengeance for admitting the Russians. News from Hungary is of the rarest. A battle is expected in the neighbourhood of Debreczin, round which the imperial troops have been gathering closer to make a decisive blow. The latest news from Hungary is that an important fight had taken place at Comorn with a body of insurgents, under Gorgey, with what result is not known. The rebels are reported to have displayed great valour, particularly the hussars, who dashed up with irresistible impetuosity to the battering train of the imperialists, and took their guns by storm, like the Polish Lancers in the charge of Somosierra.

VIENNA, March 26.—A fresh conflict between the Ministers and the military authority has arisen out of the suppression of Schwarzer's paper. Welden assigned in a printed circular as the motive for this stretch of authority that the Ministerial measures were carped at ("bakrittelt") in that journal. This blow at freedom of opinion, which was all the more offensive to the public from being struck on the eve of the new press law, has been disavowed by the Ministry. A semi-official article in an official paper at Olmütz flatly disapproves both the act and the words of the governor of Vienna, and even goes so far as to hint that his resignation would be acceptable. It is expected that the state of siege will be removed in the course of next month, and that Welden will have command in Hungary.

TURKEY.

Letters from Constantinople of the 15th ult., announce that Riza Pacha had been superseded in the War Department by Mehemet Ali Pacha, Minister of Marine, who had been himself succeeded by Suleyman Pacha, former Minister of Commerce. The Ottoman Government had thought proper to justify the warlike preparations it had been making of late, and published to that effect in the *State Gazette* a declaration, which had not satisfied the Russian Legation.

According to the *Olmütz Journal*, 100,000 Turks had marched into Wallachia, in order to "protest" against the further occupation of the Danubian principalities by the Russians.

INDIA.

DEFEAT OF THE SIKHS.

The mail of the 4th of March from Bombay brings intelligence from the theatre of war in the Punjab to the 21st of February. Another battle—the last we trust of the "great battles"—was fought on that day in the Punjab between Her Majesty's forces and the Sikh rebels. Nearly six weeks had elapsed since the disastrous conflict on the 13th of January, when, on the 21st of February, Lord Gough again engaged Shere Singh in a new position he had taken up at Gujerat. The British commander had been strengthened by the most timely arrival of the Mooltan force under the command of General Whish, and of Brigadier Dundas with the Bombay column; the Sikhs, on the other hand, had received reinforcements which Chutter Singh, the father of their chief, brought in person to the assistance of his son. The result of the conflict was a decisive victory on the side of the British. The Sikh lines were forced on every point. At the hour the messengers quitted the seat of war, in order to reach Bombay in time for the departure of the mail, the British army was in hot pursuit of the flying enemy. The battle was sharp, complete, and decisive. There seemed no possibility of a rally. The enemy's ammunition, his standing camp, and the greater portion of his guns, remain the trophies and the prizes of the victors.

The *Times* gives the following connected view of the position of affairs on the banks of the Jhelum, an entire month after the battle of Chillianwallah:—"The Sikh force was in occupation of an entrenched camp at Russool, a few miles distant from the field of battle. Lord Gough, taught prudence at last by experience, or restrained by positive orders—perhaps the latter alternative is the more probable—imitated their example. He also entrenched himself in a position at a short distance from the camp of Shere Singh, and tranquilly awaited the arrival of the reinforcements under General Whish and Brigadier Dundas. The British camp was plentifully victualled and supplied from Lahore and the intervening country, but it is stated that in the Sikh camp there ex-

isted a great scarcity of provisions and forage. The position of Shere Singh became critical. He could not conceal from himself that the intelligence of the fall of Mooltan more than counterbalanced the ambitious expectations he might have entertained from the capture of Attock and the ambiguous conflict at Chillianwallah. The opinion of the country was inclined against him more and more. The hope of efficient succour from Afghanistan or Kashmere became fainter every day. It was evident that to attack the British entrenchments was but to be foiled at his own game. It was scarcely less desperate to await the junction of the British forces, and a combined attack upon his own camp, for which his enemy might choose his own place, manner, and hour. It was under these desperate circumstances that Shere Singh formed the bold determination of moving upon Lahore, while the fords were yet open, or, at least, occupied by a force insufficient to bar his passage. It was the lion's choice, nor can we deny to the Sikh chieftain the praise of having endeavoured to carry out his scheme by a succession of skilful and well-judged manœuvres. That he did not succeed in his design, appears to have been owing solely and entirely to the admirable celerity with which General Whish appeared on the scene of action."

"It is a thankless task enough to be compelled to cast a doubt upon the plans of a General in the hour of victory. But it appears that if Lord Gough's battle of the 13th of January has been justly styled an act of desperation, his conduct from that period to the 15th of February was not characterised by any very extraordinary ability. When the Sikhs had failed in drawing him on to attack them in their almost impregnable position—an enterprise fortunately denied to the desperation of the British army—they succeeded in quitting their position and leaving him in perfect ignorance as to the direction in which they were operating. In the range of hills occupied by the Sikh force, parallel with the Jhelum, and about six miles distant from and north of Chillianwallah, there is a pass. Through this pass the road runs from Ramnuggur, across the river Jhelum, and to the town of Jhelum on the right bank of the river. There is, besides, on the Chenab the ford at Wuzerabad, and through this the high road to Lahore. In other words, the high road from Lahore to the town of Jhelum, on the right bank of the river of the same name, crosses the two rivers Chenab and Jhelum at the fords we have described. Now, it appears from the intelligence we publish to-day that on the 11th of February the Sikh force broke up their encampment at Russool, then moved down in the direction of the Jhelum ford, and it was currently believed throughout the camp that they had crossed that ford, and fallen back towards Attock. It was not until the 14th of February, three days afterwards, that it was known that instead of retreating in the manner supposed they had advanced on the Chenab, and taken the town of Gujerat. This, of course, indicated their intention to be a movement upon Lahore by the Chenab fords, nor could the disposition of the forces by Lord Gough have interfered between them and the execution of their intention. Providentially (?) the force under General Whish, who was able to detach a sufficient force to maintain possession of the fords, was on the spot in time. Thus the Sikh forces, under Shere Singh, were turned back into the plain between the two rivers Jhelum and Chenab, in which, after some preliminary manœuvring, they were finally defeated on the 21st of February."

The news of this victory reached Bombay by express late at night of the 3rd of March, and a royal salute was fired in its honour on the 4th, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The steamer started in the evening of the 4th for Suez.

The retreat of the Sikhs, on the 12th, allowed the British an opportunity of examining with attention the ground on which the battle had taken place on the 13th of January. That position of the Sikhs was found to be immensely strong, and consisting of a double line of entrenchments, in front of which they had planted large bushes in every direction, so as to mask themselves, and to prevent the movement of cavalry. Their camp had been pitched upon the slope of a hill, with a battery in the midst of broken ground. Close to this battery was a deep and rugged ravine with a narrow bridge. To the rear of this natural fortress was a perpendicular wall of rock near the Jhelum. This was the strength of the Sikhs on the memorable 13th of January. An advance upon that position would have cost many more lives than those lost in that battle.

The intelligence from other parts of India is not of an exciting nature. Mooltan is under the superintendence of Major Scott, of the Bombay engineers—about to become the Gibraltar of the Southern Punjab, and promises also to be soon an emporium for British manufactures.

THE WEST INDIES.

The "Dee" arrived at Southampton, on Friday, with the West India mails. The only news of interest is from Jamaica. The Retrenchment Bill passed by the House of Assembly, which reduced salaries by a total of £40,000, had been rejected by the Board of Council; though the Assembly had previously resolved to vote no supplies for further than the 15th February if the bill were rejected. Other decisions of the Council in opposition to the Assembly had contributed to make the breach between them wider than ever; and the House had passed a resolution by 29 to 9—the 9 being the entire "King's-house party"—declaring their want of confidence in the Council. Mr. Barkly had arrived at Georgetown, and had been well received by the people of Demerara. The "Dee" has brought home Captain Sturdee and part of the crew of the "Forth."

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

SIR R. PEEL'S IRISH SCHEME.

The *Times*, in commenting on the ex-Premier's speech on Friday night, speaks in the ambiguous strain customary with the leading journal when public opinion is not fully expressed, and half apologises for ministerial inactivity:—

"Now, though such a scheme offers great advantages, and though its author produces undeniable precedents, particularly the act for appropriating and managing the Highland estates forfeited in 1746, it will yet be asked, what is the call for this or any such novelty, and why not be content with the measures now in operation, or now before Parliament? The policy of these measures may almost be comprised in two words,—Relief and Rates. To feed part of the population, and to make the rest pay, are the main objects directly and immediately attempted. Where relief is not properly, that is sufficiently administered, the Union Boards are superseded by paid guardians; where the electoral divisions are insolvent they are to be aided, first by the unions, then by Ireland, then by the empire at large. Certainly it will be a great act of justice to extract a rate-in-aid out of Ireland, and if it be really done it will be a wonderful achievement, and redound much to the glory of the extractors. Such is the immediate operation of the Ministerial measures, existent and prospective. It is, however, for their indirect and intermediate operation that they are chiefly recommended. The rigorous administration of the Poor Law is destroying small holdings, reducing needy proprietors to utter insolvency, compelling them to surrender their estates into better hands, instigating an emigration far beyond any which a Government could undertake, and so leaving the soil of Ireland open to industrial enterprise, and the introduction of new capital. A sentence has gone forth that every man must either relieve or be relieved, on a standard of subsistence which, miserable though it be, is still costly compared with the former food of the population. This is, in fact, a sentence of extermination, and as such it is regarded with complacency by those who see no other remedy for Ireland. Meanwhile the measure now before the House guarantees a *maximum* of rates for the poor, and thus removes the greatest obstacle in the way of those patriotic or adventurous capitalists who may wish to invest in Ireland. As for the defect of titles, the complication of leases and encumbrances, the toils of the Exchequer, the abyss of the Chancery, and the vested interests of lawyers and receivers, we presume that Government hopes to work its way gradually through those intestine ills, and legislate upon them one by one, as fast as experience shows them to be inexpugnable by any existing process of law. Such are the direct, and such the indirect objects, of the Ministerial policy; and we presume it will be argued they are both so promising, and the prospects of Ireland so decidedly improved, that there is no call for Sir Robert Peel's plan.

"For our own part, whatever our opinion of that plan, we cannot bring ourselves to say that there is no call for it. We cannot put so great a confidence in the Ministerial measures, and in the social changes which these measures force on. We see Ireland depopulated, her villages razed to the ground, her landlords bankrupt,—in a word, we see the hideous chasm prepared for the foundations of a future prosperity; but, as when a man has set about an edifice above his powers, there is as yet nothing but pits, rubbish, and rough materials sunk as it were in a slough of despair. Where are the new proprietors? The cry is still, they are coming, but how many have come? Where is the capital? Where is the new race of tenants? Do mortgages, does the Chancery or the Exchequer, lie lighter on the soil? There is not a sign, as yet, of deliverance. A spirit whose name is 'Legion,' still possesses Irish property. There is destruction enough. It is *construction* Ireland wants now. She has been cut to pieces and thrown into the magic cauldron, but as yet there are no signs of the promised regeneration. We are aware that the prejudices of the age are against a constructive policy. A highly advanced state of civilization requires rather amendment and reform, than the introduction of entirely new methods. But, for the purposes of the present question, the West of Ireland is a primitive, rude, and barbarous country, calling rather for such rulers as Alfred or the Conqueror, than the political martinets of this century. The social system there must be built anew. That it will ever rise of itself out of the present desolation is more than we dare to hope. The analogy of history is against such spontaneous resurrection."

The *Daily News*, too, is critical, but anticipates much good from Sir Robert's appeals to the people, from the selfishness, blindness, and apathy of Parliamentary parties:—

"On the other hand, it cannot fail to be observed how wavering is the outline of Sir Robert's plan, and how miscellaneous, if not heterogeneous, are its component parts; how vague his pledges as to matters of principle, how mystified his foreshadowings of detail. There is a little of everything that nobody objects to, but not much very plain of the kind that is likely to provoke controversy. He would do something in the way of fisheries—but how, he did not say. He would like greatly to have model estates dotting the country at suitable intervals, but who was to hold or to manage them with any hope of making them pay (without which they must only serve the uses of agricultural dilettantism) Sir Robert did not deign to explain. Then he would like to see something attempted towards en-

couraging the greater cultivation of flax; but in what way even this should be tried, he did not vouchsafe to expound. All these and many other contributive aids to industrial restoration must be left to the discretion of a select commission or plantation court, who, with some of the functions of equity judges and some of the duties of gentlemen farmers, were to cross the Shannon armed with plenary authorization to see and determine all that required to be done, but, marvellous to relate, without apparently any of the indispensable means whereby all or any part of the good can be accomplished peaceably. Cromwell's method is no longer possible. What is Peel's? We shall be curious to learn.

"Apart from these considerations, however, we must not refuse our full acknowledgment of the value we attach to Sir Robert's thorough-going adhesion to the doctrine we have so long insisted on—the sale of land for poor-rates over-due. We are thoroughly persuaded that this may with truth be termed the key to the entire position. This, too, is a Whig impossibility. Of course it is. There are so many things to be considered, and so many difficulties to be got over. The fee-simple of a man's estate is, after all, such a sacred thing; and then the danger of introducing the principle in one kingdom lest it might some day or other be extended to the other. All landlordism revolts instinctively at the innovation. No doubt it does; but for all that, the sooner it makes up its mind to gulp down the unpalatable dose, the better for itself and the rest of the community. For there are few things more certain under the sun than that this salutary, though ill-relished draught, it will be forced to drain.

"Finally, upon the subject of the insidious sophism that would, in one form or another, try to eke out an inadequate policy of public relief by the fatal impolicy of public labour, Sir Robert laid aside all circumlocutory caution, and gave the unqualified verdict of his reprobation against labour-rates, or labour-tests of poverty, in every shape and form. Nothing can be more timely or more useful than such a sentence of condemnation, coming from such an authority."

ENGLISH HOMŒOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.—Dr. Epps delivered, last Thursday evening, the fifth lecture of the course on "Homœopathy," at Exeter-hall; T. H. Johnston, Esq., in the chair. Dr. Epps referred to the action of medicines in infinitesimal quantities. He said, the doctrine was not that an infinitesimal dose of medicine would act upon a man in health, (hence the professional boasters, who thought themselves very clever, and smart, and bold, in offering to swallow a bottle of globules, manifested merely ignorance in such boasting.) The doctrine was not that an infinitesimal dose would act upon a diseased state; but the doctrine is, that an infinitesimal dose of medicine will act efficiently, that is, curatively, on a disease, to which it, by the law *similia similibus curantur*, is homœopathic. The lecturer then proceeded to explain how an infinitesimal dose of medicine does efficiently act. He maintained that the process by which homœopathic remedies are prepared, develops their virtues—that the extent of active surface of the triturated medicinal substance is so augmented, that a millionth part of a grain presents a greater amount of contact surface to, and consequently of action on, the nerves of the stomach, than would be presented by a grain of the substance given in the crude state—that the medicine, when brought into this state of minute division, is "in a state in which it can more readily act;" and when to these three circumstances favouring the action of infinitesimal quantities of medicines, is added the fourth, that the susceptibility of the nervous system is greatly augmented in disease, an amount of reasons for the action of infinitesimal quantities, when prescribed according to the homœopathic law, is collected together sufficient, he believed, to convince any unprejudiced mind. The lecturer then proceeded to consider the objections to homœopathy. He noticed that the numberless cures effected by homœopathic treatment had forced an acknowledgment by the allopathists, that cases which have resisted the old system treatment, have been cured under the new system treatment. But such is the obliquity of their intellect, that they persist in maintaining that something beside physic had effected the change. To diet they ascribed much. But if, as the lecturer observed, they believe that diet does cure diseases, they ought, as honest men, to adopt the diet, and not give their destructive physic. Either they believe that diet cures, or they do not. If they do believe, they are dishonest to persist in giving physic; if they do not believe their assertion, then they are traitors to the cause of truth, in putting forth a fallacy to stop the progress of truth. Dr. Epps then referred to the second cause presented for the explanation of the success of homœopathic treatment, namely, the power of faith and of imagination. He remarked that it is a truism in morals, "That to make another feel, one must feel oneself." If the homœopathist creates faith in his patient's mind, it must be because he himself has faith. Why should not the allopathist be able to create the same amount of faith in his patient? Simply because in faith he himself is wanting. The lecturer stated that he knew well the power of imagination (he related many most interesting instances); but until he could have solved the facts that children, infants, horses, and cows, were cured of their diseases by homœopathic remedies, he must decline to recognise that the efficacy of homœopathic medicines is to be ascribed to imagination. The Chairman then adjourned the meeting till next Thursday.

WHITTINGTON CLUB AND METROPOLITAN ATHENÆUM.

A dinner of the members and friends of this Institution, took place at the Club, on Saturday evening. CHARLES LUSHINGTON, Esq., M.P., President of the Institution, in the chair. Amongst the ladies and gentlemen present were the following:—Mrs. Charles Lushington, Mrs. Milner Gibson, Mrs. George Thompson, Mrs. Cowden Clarke, Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., Richard Monckton Milnes, Esq., M.P., George Thompson, Esq., M.P., William Ewart, Esq., M.P., Matthew Wilson, jun., Esq., M.P., W. A. Mackinnon, Esq., M.P., Francis Moffatt, Esq., M.P., John Williams, Esq., M.P., James Wyld, Esq., M.P., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M.P., Sir Henry Bishop, Prof. Mus. Oxon., R. H. Horne, Esq., LL.D., Professor J. P. Nichol, LL.D., F.R.S.E., of Glasgow, Charles Mackay, Esq., Dr. Lyon Playfair, F.R.S., Professor Edward Forbes, F.R.S., Prof. Botany, King's College, Professor A. C. Ramsay, Prof. Geology, University College, Robert Hunt, Esq., author of "The Poetry of Science," John Auldjo, Esq., F.R.S., Frank Stone, Esq. The musical part of the entertainment was conducted by Mr. A. Novello, Miss Messent, Mr. F. Bodda, Miss Anne Romer, and Mr. Charles Romer.

The loyal toasts being duly honoured, The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "Prosperity to the Whittington Club and Metropolitan Athenæum," observed, that this was the anniversary of the foundation of the Institution. It was an institution calculated to confer benefits, not only on its members, but indirectly on society at large. After alluding to the merits of the gentleman who had preceded him in the presidential chair (Mr. Douglas Jerrold), the hon. gentleman said the institution owed its origin to that gentleman, who, in 1846, had suggested the formation of such a club; and so well had the suggestion been followed up, that the Whittington Club now numbered above 1,900 members [hear, hear]. There were now in operation fifteen classes for the cultivation of modern languages, sciences, &c. It was a peculiar and attractive feature of this club that ladies might become members [cheers]. During the past year, a lady of eminent attainments had given lectures in that hall. This was suggestive of the benefits conferred on literature and science in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, by the learned ladies of Italy. After alluding to the transformation which had taken place in the building in which they were assembled—from a tavern to a lyceum—the hon. gentleman concluded by proposing the toast, which was enthusiastically applauded.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Visitors."

Mr. MACKINNON, M.P., responded to the toast. He observed that, as civilization advanced, the position of the female sex had invariably improved; and it might be one proud characteristic of the nineteenth century, that ladies were admitted to societies of this description [cheers]. He considered the aristocracy of talent far superior to that of birth; and it was one advantage of this society to give prominence to the aristocracy of talent [hear, hear].

Mr. R. M. MILNES, M.P. proposed the health of "the President," and congratulated the society on the eminence it had attained, in combining the practical with the intellectual, and in affording facilities for mutual assistance.

The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the toast.

Sir H. R. BISHOP proposed "The late President and founder of the institution, Mr. Douglas Jerrold." He was delighted to find that amongst the various advantages of this institution, music had not been neglected [cheers].

Mr. EWART, M.P., in proposing "the Vice-Presidents," expressed his satisfaction that the society had taken the lead in recognising the social importance of woman. Already the institution had found its imitators,—in Liverpool, in the Roscoe Club, and elsewhere.

Lord D. C. STUART acknowledged the toast, and expressed his belief that the institution would shed advantages over society at large. Its universality was its great recommendation; it excluded no sect, no party, no nation.

Mr. G. THOMPSON, M.P., proposed "The Managing Committee." He stated that he was one of the first of the youth of London to avail himself of the advantages offered by institutions like this; but, until the Whittington Club was formed, it had never been shown that all were on the same level, Jew and Greek, Barbarian and Scythian, bond and free; and, in particular, that there was no sex in mental pursuits [cheers]. This result was mainly attributable to the efforts of the Managing Committee [loud cheers].

W. SHAEN, Esq., acknowledged the toast.

The following toasts were also given—"The Solicitors to the Club," "The Ladies," "Literature," "Science," &c.

THE FAMILY OF MR. JERDAN, the editor of the *Literary Gazette*, have been thrown into much distress by the death, on Tuesday last, of Mr. John Eggar, of Bentley, the father of Mrs. Jerdan, at the advanced age of ninety-four, of mortification resulting from the bite of a dog. Mrs. Jerdan was with her venerable parent at the time of the accident, and remained in attendance upon him until his death. —*Globe*.

SEVERE "AGGRAVATION OF AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS."—We have heard of a young lady living not a hundred miles from Truro, and exceedingly well disposed to the agricultural interest, who nevertheless declines to accept an offer from a farmer until there shall be a better price for wheat than at present. She positively will not marry while wheat is below 60s. a quarter. —*Plymouth Paper*.

THE WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.—The fourth concert of the new series took place on Wednesday, when M. Thalberg played fantasias from *Norma* and *Masaniello*, which were rapturously received. It was his last appearance till the summer, and the audience seemed reluctant to let him go. Mr. Reeves sang several pieces also, with his accustomed spirit, and was obliged to submit to almost as many encores. Madlle Nissen gave portions of *Lucia* and *Betty* with great brilliancy and correctness; one of Bishop's pleasant duets from *Henry Quatre* was prettily sung by Mrs. A. Newton and Master Sloman; other music was nicely rendered by Misses Birch, Poole, Nelson, and Messent, and Messrs. Leffler, Lawler, T. Williams, and Binge; Mt. Willy's band distinguished itself by two capital overtures, and the grand march from Meyerbeer's *Camp of Silesia*; and the only drawback to the entertainment, in which a popular and unpretending taste for music was really catered for with admirable success, was the late hour at which it closed. But for this the encores are mainly responsible.

SUSSEX COUNTY MEETING.—On Tuesday, a meeting of freeholders and other inhabitants of the county of Sussex, convened by the High Sheriff, in pursuance of a requisition emanating from a meeting held at Battle, on the 13th ult., at which resolutions in favour of the repeal of the malt-tax and financial reform were carried, was held at Lewes. From 3,000 to 4,000 persons were assembled. Major Curties moved the first resolution, condemnatory of the malt and hop duties, which was seconded by Mr. S. Selmes. Mr. J. Ellman moved, by way of addition to the resolution, the following words:—"But this meeting is of opinion, that if foreign barley be allowed to be imported at the mere nominal duty of one shilling per quarter, the benefit which the British farmer would otherwise receive from the repeal of the malt-tax would be principally enjoyed by the foreign power." After a warm debate, the question was put, when the High Sheriff declared the amendment carried. This led to much dispute, and in the midst of the confusion the High Sheriff declared the meeting dissolved. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Shelley read a circular, from an agent of the Protection Society, entreating the farmers to come to the meeting and support Protectionist resolutions, and offering to pay their expenses.

CASE OF MR. SHORE.—A numerously-attended meeting, over which the Mayor presided, was held in the Guildhall, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday last. Resolutions of the usual character, and a petition to both Houses of Parliament, praying their assent to Mr. Bouvier's bill, with the insertion of a retrospective clause having reference to the case of Mr. Shore, were adopted. A public meeting for the purpose of addressing a letter of sympathy to Mr. Shore, and petitioning Parliament in his behalf, was convened on Friday, Mar. 30, at the Great-room, Broadmead. The room, which holds 2,000 persons, was filled to overflowing with a respectable and enthusiastic audience, and, as a proof of the extensive interest which this subject has excited, it might be mentioned that nearly two thousand persons failed to gain admission after seven o'clock. S. Leonard, Esq., M.A., occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by the Revs. T. Haynes, T. Winter, W. Gregory, H. Roper, G.H. Davis, G. Armstrong, B.A., F. S. Crisp, and other ministers and gentlemen. An address to Mr. Shore was adopted, and a deputation appointed to present it. We have been favoured with a report of the speeches delivered, but are sorry that we are unable to insert them this week.

FREE CHURCH SITES.—Lord Macdonald has laudably followed the example of the Duke of Buccleuch in the matter of sites, having granted accommodation for a free church at Portree. In consideration of the now diminished number of cases where sites are refused, the Free Church has wisely resolved on not bringing the subject before Parliament.—*Globe*.

EXECUTIONS.—George Howe, condemned at the York assizes for the murder of his child at Yarm, was executed on Saturday at noon. He seemed to be penitent, but he denied firmly his commission of the deed of which he had been found guilty. Millan, who was convicted for the murder of an old man at Bethersden, Kent, was executed, pursuant to his sentence, at the county jail on Wednesday. The culprit was brought out a few minutes before twelve, and after praying for a short time the bolt was drawn, and he died without a struggle. He was only 17 years of age, and appeared to meet his fate without regret. The prisoner Sheepwash was respited on account of his evident weakness of intellect. He will be placed in a lunatic asylum.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, April 4, Two o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

THE STATE TRIALS of the Prussian insurgent leaders at Bourges are at length concluded. The sentences were passed at 11 o'clock on Monday night. Barbes and Albert, transportation for life. Blanqui, ten years' imprisonment. Sobrier, seven years. Raspail, six years. Flotte and Quentin, five years each. General Courtais, Degre, Le Paupier, Bormes, Thomas, Vilain, and Larget, were acquitted and discharged. The sentence on Louis Blanc and Causidière, *par continuance*, was adjourned to Tuesday.

ITALY.—Accounts from Lombardy state that an insurrection broke out at Brescia on the 23rd ult., owing to the arrival of refugee Lombards from Switzerland. The Governor of the citadel was made

prisoner, and the officers who accompanied him shot. During the 23rd and 24th, the fire of musketry and cannon resounded in the streets of Brescia. The Austrian garrison still occupy the citadel. M. Gioberti, member of the new Cabinet at Turin, arrived at Paris on Tuesday morning. The Turin Chamber of Deputies, which has shown great hostility to any arrangement with Austria, has been dissolved by the King. *La Liberté* states that a telegraphic despatch has been received by the Government, announcing that the Austrians were proceeding by forced marches towards Tuscany.

THE LATE KING OF SARDINIA.—The *Sémaphore de Marseilles* of the 30th ult. announces that King Charles Albert was expected the night before in that city, and that apartments had been engaged for that Prince and his suite at the Hôtel de l'Orient.

THE WAR IN HUNGARY.—Intelligence from Hungary is most disastrous to Austrian arms. The Magyars have resumed offensive operations on the side of the Theiss nearest Austria. Letters from Pesth, of the 26th ult., say that within a radius of forty miles of that city several fiercely contested fights had within the last few days taken place. The insurgents were commanded by Gorgey and Vetter. Their aim was not at Pesth, but to relieve Comorn.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

In the House of Lords, last night, the royal assent was given by commission to the following bills:—The Mutiny Bill; the Marine Mutiny Bill; the Indemnity Bill; the Larceny Acts Amendment Bill; and Waldy's Divorce Bill. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Campbell.

Lord BROUGHAM expressed a hope that this country would leave the mediation between Austria and Sardinia entirely to France, and proceeded to condemn the French National Assembly for its blustering talk about preserving the integrity of Piedmont, which was no more menaced than the integrity of Russia.

On the motion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE the House adjourned until Thursday, the 19th inst.

In the House of Commons, Mr. LABOUCHERE postponed the bringing up of the report on the Navigation Bill till Thursday, the 19th inst.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL having suggested the withdrawal of the notices on the paper, in order that the debate on the rate-in-aid might be again proceeded with, hon. members generally acceded, Mr. F. Scott's motion on the subject of the colonies being fixed for Monday the 16th, and the further proceeding with the rate-in-aid for Thursday, the 19th inst.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL obtained leave to bring in the following measures:—Bills for giving effect to the stipulations of a treaty between her Majesty and the Queen of Portugal for the apprehension of certain deserters, and for facilitating the administration of justice at the Central Criminal Court and at sessions of the peace near the metropolis.

The adjourned debate on the Rate-in-Aid Bill was commenced by Mr. J. O'CONNELL, in opposition to the measure. He was disposed to think that an excellent remedy for the existing distress might be compounded out of three schemes proposed—Mr. Disraeli's income-tax, Lord J. Russell's railway and drainage scheme, and the outline of the plan suggested by Sir Robert Peel. Lord C. HAMILTON, Mr. SHARMAN CRAWFORD, Mr. MONSELL, Mr. HORSMAN, Major BRACKALL, and Mr. DRUMMOND, opposed the rate-in-aid. Mr. W. BROWN, Sir D. NORREYS, and Mr. REYNOLDS, supported it. Capt. ARCHDALL characterised Lord John Russell as a "dare-devil" for attempting to carry such a scheme. On a division, the second reading was affirmed by a majority of 55, the numbers being 193 to 138.

Mr. P. SCROPE having moved for leave to bring in a bill to promote the employment of labour in Ireland by a proportionate exemption from poor-rate, a short discussion ensued, after which the House divided, when the motion was carried by a majority of 93—the numbers being, 108 to 15.

Mr. LOCKE resumed an application made earlier in the evening, but postponed, for leave to bring in the bill compelling railway companies to attach passenger carriages to post-office trains on Sundays in Scotland; and on a division, after some observations and opposition from several hon. members, the motion was agreed to by a majority of 38. Ayes, 58; Noes, 20. Some new bills were introduced, after which the House adjourned.

THE FREEHOLD LAND MOVEMENT.—On Monday evening, there took place the first public meeting of the friends of a Society established at Coventry on the principle of the Land Society at Birmingham, the occasion being the celebration of the taking possession of the first piece of land purchased by the Society. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the members and their friends proceeded to a place called Jeffery Wood's Cross, about a mile from the city, when the 29 members to whom the shares had been allotted formally took possession of their property, which consisted of a plot of eligible land for building purposes, about 540 square yards in extent; having done which, the procession, preceded by bands of music and banners, returned to the city, where the event was being celebrated by the people in holiday fashion. There are already about 350 members belonging to the Society, with about 450 shares subscribed for. In the evening, a soirée took place in St. Mary's Hall, at which the members of the Society and their friends were present. Mr. Alderman Weston and a deputation from the Parent Society attended, but some disappointment was caused by

the absence of Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., and Mr. Scolefield, M.P., who were expected to attend. Letters of apology from each of these gentlemen were read, expressive of regret at their inability to be present, but declaratory of their cordial concurrence in the objects of the movement. The chair was occupied by C. Bray, Esq.; and Mr. Newcome, Mr. James Taylor, Secretary of the Birmingham Society, and Mr. Alderman Weston, were the principal speakers.

THE STANFIELD HALL MURDERS.—The trial of Rush was resumed at Norwich yesterday. We understand that during Monday night the prisoner became exceedingly violent, and vowed revenge against the witnesses who had given evidence against him. It was, therefore, feared that he might lay violent hands upon his own life, if the means were placed within his power, or attack any one within his reach. In consequence of the threats used, and the apparently ungovernable rage which had taken possession of the prisoner, the spikes round the dock were covered, some time before the meeting of the court, with long and stout pieces of wood. The conduct of Rush during the night, it is stated, was ferocious in the extreme, and more like that of a demon than a human being. The prisoner (with whom turnkeys have been in the habit of sitting up every night, and who have kept a strict watch over him), however, slept a good deal on Monday night; his violence came on early on Tuesday morning. These revelations caused the greatest excitement in the court, which was again crowded. The witness Howe was then re-examined, at the special request of the prisoner, but nothing important was elicited. The prisoner then commenced his defence, and had not concluded when the Court rose at eight o'clock. It was long and rambling, though in some parts forcibly and cleverly arranged. The bulk of his address was taken up with an involved commentary on the evidence for the prosecution. The gist of his defence was contained in a letter which he said had been written for a considerable time for the instruction of a lawyer in London, but which he could not forward, because he did not wish to have it inspected by the governor of the Castle. The letter stated that a person named Joe had for some days prior to the murder informed him of the intention of himself and a lawyer to take forcible possession of Stanfield-hall, and that he had an interview with the lawyer on the subject:—

He said, "If I once get Jerry's people out, and plenty of help from the men at Potash, the thing will be settled in half an hour!" I told him I would not assist them; and it was one reason why I was then at Potash, that I might induce my son not to join them and get into trouble, as so many did before. He said, if you do not assist me, we have wholly made up our minds to do so without help either that evening or the next morning. The majority thought it best to make the attempt in the morning, because they would have at least five times the assistance that they would have in the evening. But six or seven more, besides the lawyer, thought it better to come in the evening; others thought there would be seventy or eighty to assist in taking possession in the morning, and not half the hubbub made in getting possession. All I said was, "You know best; were they not there," said I, "on Friday, as you expected?" "Yes," said he "but there were people walking about in the lawn, and I was afraid to be discovered. We had wholly made up our minds what to do, but we were obliged to go back after waiting three hours." I said, "I think your coming in the night is not wise, and I hope you will find it out before it is too late." He said, "If you come in the evening the lawyer will find how to proceed." I said, "I had rather hear nothing of it. If you attempt to do anything to-night, I shall hear how you get on in the morning. He had thought a great deal about it during the night, and he had a sort of presentiment that all would not be well; but he did not think that anything serious would take place. He left Potash the night of the murder; he did not leave till eight or nearly half-past eight; and he thought he would be able to prove that such was the fact. He went after poachers, and he even had some thoughts of going to the hall; but he made up his mind not to go. He walked round Mr. Jerry's plantation, and when he got to the fence he stayed there five minutes, and he thought he would go back again, as he felt very unwell. He heard the report of a gun or a pistol, in a direction from the hall; he soon after heard two more, but not so loud. He was struck with amazement, as they always said if they took fire-arms it should only be for the purpose of intimidation, but not to lead them. He heard the bell at the hall ring violently, and he then got back to Potash as quick as he could. He went through the garden into the house. He had seen the lawyers of the parties twice—once at Norwich, and once at Potash.

The prisoner will resume his address this day.

THE LIVERPOOL MURDER.—Yesterday, the prisoner accused of this crime was fully committed for trial.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES.—Distress warrants were issued yesterday by the Southampton magistrates against a great number of persons in the Earl of Guildford's parish for Church-rates. The churchwarden has applied to the Earl to repair the Church himself, and render the enforcement of the distress warrants unnecessary; but the rev. Earl is inexorable, and has ordered the churchwarden to enforce the law. He declares that if the latter falters in the least, he will call on the archdeacon to prosecute him.

NORTH HANTS ELECTION.—State of the poll at the close on Tuesday afternoon:—

Portal	881
Shaw	650

Majority for Portal 331

RETURNING OFFICERS FOR THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGHES FOR 1849-50.—For Marylebone, George Tamplin, Esq., 50, Doughty-street; for Finsbury, T. H. Boykett, Esq., 9, Chancery-lane; for Tower Hamlets, Henry Child, Esq., St. Swithin's-lane.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, April 4.
We have still to note good supplies of Foreign Grain and Flour, whilst of English the quantity fresh up is but trifling. For Wheat and Flour the enquiry is very limited, but for Spring Corn there is a full sale at fully Monday's prices.
Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 1,040 quarters; Foreign, 1,830 quarters. Barley—English, 1,350 quarters; Foreign, 5,210 quarters. Oats—English, 1,210 quarters; Irish, 500 quarters; Foreign, 6,118 quarters. Flour—English, 1,370 sacks; Foreign, 6,118 sacks.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"G. L. W." 'Tis very lamentable, but we deem it wiser to let them alone, and not unduly elevate them into importance.

"Denarii Sancti Petri" should communicate his suggestion to Mr. Shore's committee.

"W. B. West." We should be most happy to see it.

"R. Smith." The *Cambridge Independent Press*, we believe—the words may be also found in the report of the *Daily News*.

"M. A." The correction is quite unnecessary.

"Alpha's" verses do not suit us.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1849.

SUMMARY.

DISCUSSION in the House of Commons has risen during the past week into the region of earnestness. It has done so, for many years back, but very occasionally. Heat there has often been—more than enough of it—but of that eloquence which awes the listless, and commands thoughtful attention from the opposing—which has power because aiming at a worthy object with a sincere intent to achieve it, if possible—which makes conscience hear it, and touches the springs of moral emotion, and brings even the antagonistic will to a stand—the House of Commons has witnessed but too rarely. Few could have anticipated that the Whig proposal of a Rate-in-aid for Ireland would elicit unwonted life in Parliamentary proceedings. Yet so it is. A debate on this most unpromising subject has opened the way for a general consideration of Irish affairs, and of Imperial policy in regard to them. Sir Robert Peel, renewing a former effort, makes this measure the pedestal merely, upon which to place before the public eye the outline of his scheme for regenerating Ireland. Mr. Bright follows with valuable criticisms, suggestions, and exhortations. Even Mr. Disraeli is charmed, for the moment, beyond the circle of party politics—and Lord John Russell is compelled to break away from the narrow confines of the immediate question, and betake himself to higher considerations, and more general principles.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Rate-in-aid Bill has occupied, since the issue of our last number, three evenings—Friday in last week, Monday and Tuesday in this. Sir Robert Peel's speech was the chief feature of Friday night's discussion. He began by giving his support to the Ministerial measure as an expedient dictated by humanity—but he soon took his leave of temporary policy, to enlarge upon what should be permanent and remedial. He drew a vivid picture of Ireland's social position and prospects—bringing out into startling distinctness the poverty and helplessness of the peasantry, the insolvency of the landowners, and the drain caused by both upon British resources. In rapid succession, he passed under review the existing means of restoring Ireland, and pointed out their utter inefficacy. Then came a further, ampler, bolder, enunciation of the truth, than in his former speech, that the soil must be made to change hands; and that an unencumbered and enterprising proprietary must be helped to succeed an insolvent and listless class of owners. He developed more minutely than heretofore his plan for accomplishing this change. A Commission is retained as a leading feature of the scheme—a Commission armed with powers to conduct Ireland through the passing crisis. The superintendence of the distressed unions, drainage, roads, piers, emigration—all the minor attempts to relieve distress, afford employment, or alleviate local congestion, should be under their control; but the grand object to which their service should be rendered was, to facilitate the transfer of landed estates from insolvent to solvent proprietors, in order to which, he thought a summary process for giving a complete title might be devised and adopted, and, if necessary, the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery ousted altogether.

Mr. Bright opened the debate on Monday. He,

too, supported the proposition for a rate-in-aid. And he, too, quickly rose to the consideration of what the state of Ireland required of a permanently remedial character. "No work" he described as the worst symptom of Ireland's disease—laws affecting land as the main cause. Nor was he shy or reserved in dealing with the policy which was identified with the maintenance of this state of things. He denounced the connexion of political power with territorial possessions—boldly put his finger upon the system of primogeniture and entail—gave sound advice to ancestral pride—and indicated the true principles from which Ireland's resuscitation must come—the removal of every obstacle to the free sale and transfer of land, a modification of landed tenures, and a judicious disposal of waste lands. The Marquis of Granby came as a relief between Mr. Bright and Mr. Disraeli; his feeble speech affording rest to overstrained attention. But the member for Buckinghamshire did not shine. He is an effective speaker, but no statesman. He can pull to pieces, but has nothing to suggest. He tickles ears with well-balanced sentences, but he does not fill the mind with useful ideas. In this instance, he quarrelled with the Whig measure—but he quarrelled more with Sir Robert Peel's proposal. An income-tax for Ireland, with the workhouse-test, and a diminished area of rating, was the only plan he could offer. Lord John Russell followed—but we have largely commented upon what fell from him in another column. Mr. John O'Connell moved the adjournment of the debate.

The subject noticed above has had precedence as due to its superior importance—in the order of time it should have come last. The other topics before the House were not so important. The Affirmation Bill, to which we directed attention last week, has passed through committee. Mr. Pusey's Landlord and Tenant Bill has just got into it, with an instruction from the House to extend its provisions to Ireland—but when it will get through, at least if all the details of farm-management are to be discussed *apropos* to its several clauses, it lies out of our power to conjecture. Mr. Moffatt's Insolvent Members Bill, at the Speaker's suggestion, has been withdrawn, with a view to the introduction of an amended one. A motion for a select committee to inquire into the failure of one of the Dublin savings' banks, submitted, on Thursday evening, by Mr. Reynolds, member for that city, and opposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer as expensive and useless, is noticeable chiefly for the defeat of Ministers, by cleverly out-manceuvring them.

The House of Lords still lacks employment. In the interval, Lord Stanley complains of an unnecessary appointment of a fresh batch of Liberal magistrates at Stockport, which the Lord Chancellor defended by a forcible *tu quoque* argument—and Lords Brougham and Aberdeen exult with indecent joy over the sudden and signal fall of Charles Albert, in consequence of his defeat by Marshal Radetzky at Novara.

A few words must suffice this week for a passing record of what is occurring out of doors. The Stanfield-hall murders we reserve for comment until after the conclusion of Rush's trial. The meetings held on behalf of Mr. Shore, and also those in aid of the British Anti-state-church Association, now actively proceeding, are referred to in our columns of intelligence. There are some minor Ministerial changes in contemplation, and some Parliamentary vacancies in prospect. Mr. Ward, Secretary to the Admiralty, goes out to the Ionian Islands as Governor, and will be succeeded in his post by Mr. Tufnell. Sheffield will lose one of its members, whose place, we understand, will very likely be supplied by Mr. Roebuck—a far better man; and Devonport will have a new opportunity for exercising its power of choice. Perth, too, we hear, may possibly be vacated, in consequence of the anticipated death of Lord Panmure, the Hon. Fox Maule's father. North Hants is in the very heat of a contest, between Mr. Portal, a landlord's nominee, and Mr. Shaw, editor of the *Mark Lane Express*, the candidate selected by the tenant-farmers, both Conservatives—the first, however, a representative of a return to Protectionism—and the last, of an advance to tenant-right, modified game-laws, and the political independence of occupiers. 'Tis said that he stands a fair chance. We shall see.

Another victory over the Sikhs, the rout of Shere Singh's army, and the capture of most of his baggage and guns, constitutes the burden of tidings from the East. No particulars have yet reached this country.

FORCE AND ALMS.

SLOWLY, but surely, the dawn of a happier day for Ireland advances. Darkness still overspreads its social firmament, but faint streaks of light may be discerned on the distant horizon. A knowledge of the disease is said to be half the cure. That knowledge, in the case of the sister isle, has been thrust upon unwilling statesmen by the stern teaching of events. The mystery is at an end. More than half factitious, but partly produced and

maintained by an unprecedented entanglement of social and political relationships, it served landlordism, as the darkened stage the conjuror, as a cover for all sorts of legislative empiricism. It can do so no more. Day has opportunely come to our aid, and the pasteboard, wires, springs, and machinery of quackdom, have been made visible. Whatever is done henceforth, must be done in good faith. The secret is out. The impeachment has been owned to. The raw material of Ireland's wealth is tied up to an insolvent and incapable proprietary. A pauper population is the natural consequence of pauper landowners. Law has connected political influence and power with territorial possessions—and, to make the former sure, has impeded in every way the transference of the latter. The end is now at hand. The monopoly breaks down with its own weight. Into the very House of Commons, the head-quarters of landlordism, truth has penetrated, and is making itself heard. Smile again, poor, languishing, emaciated sister! Smile again, even from the depths of your present misery! Hope whispers to you in reviving tones—"Better times are in store for you."

But not from the Whigs—no, not from the Whigs. The family-cabinet has too large and undiluted a proportion in it of aristocratic blood, to undertake any change which, by destroying an artificial monopoly of the soil, will undermine also the great monopoly of political power. It is not in them to cut the legal ties which bind estates for ever to ancient, but bankrupt families. Lord John Russell can criticise with keen dexterity all propositions for effecting this most radical, but most necessary change. None so apt as he to espy difficulties—none so well-practised in making the most of them. No wonder that the bold suggestions of Sir Robert Peel, followed up by the manly advice of Mr. Bright, show themselves to his mind as unattainable—unattainable they are and must be to an unconsenting will. But, if anything of the sort from him could surprise us, it certainly would be the daring nature of his attempt on Monday night to justify the superior wisdom of Whig statesmanship in regard to Ireland. Mr. Bright had complained that the remedies for Ireland had hitherto been "force and alms"—coercion bills and pecuniary doles. Lord John tacitly accepts that description of Whig policy as accurate, and in a passage too long to quote entire, but from which we give a sufficient extract below, he endeavours to show that a policy of that character is the only sure foundation of national greatness.

"On a former occasion (he says), in speaking of Ireland, I alluded to the condition of England and Scotland at two different periods of their history, and I said I thought that Ireland was now entering upon a change of a similar character. With regard to England, I quoted a writing of Sir Thomas More, in which he described what would now be called evictions. He described the families turned out of their cottages, which were pulled down—their going through the wide world to seek for refuge—and the miseries caused by the extensive ejections of the poor by the landlords of his time. What was done with regard to the general policy of England on this subject, in the reign of a wise princess who succeeded to the throne soon after the time of which Sir T. More was speaking? Elizabeth and her councillors proposed some legislative measures by which they conceived that the prosperity of England would be secured for ever. One of their measures was to punish all malefactors with great severity, and they red used the country to a state of peace and order. Having done this they likewise passed measures providing for the relief of the infirm and impotent poor, and for affording work to the idle and sturdy. These measures were nothing more than those upon which the hon. member for Manchester expressed his hope that her Majesty's Government and the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland would not rely, namely, force and alms; yet under these laws England rose to a high station among the powers of Europe, she sent forth men of extraordinary capacity to traverse the ocean and visit the most distant shores, and under them the genius of Bacon and of Milton burst forth. Yet this was done, as I have already said, not by any specific scheme, but by establishing order and providing relief for the destitute, thus taking security against the aggressions upon property and assaults upon persons which formerly prevailed, and ensuring to every man the opportunity of safely pursuing his occupation, and enjoying the fruits of his own labour [hear, hear]."

The passage quoted above is a fair illustration of the art with which Lord John Russell can contrive to throw around a beggarly policy a halo of intellectual and moral grandeur. Observe how cleverly he connects together the present civilization, refinement, and prosperity of England, with laws, framed in the times of Queen Elizabeth, for the protection of property and for the relief of indigence, similar in their object only with such laws as the Whigs have proposed for Ireland—the Coercion Act and the Amended Poor-law, the suspension of Habeas Corpus, the £50,000 grant, and the Sixpenny Rate-in-aid! Mark how he dazzles your admiring eyes by reflecting full upon them the lustre radiated by the glorious names of Bacon and Milton! What is the impression he wishes to leave upon your mind? What, but that to a policy precisely similar to that which he is pursuing towards Ireland, England is indebted for her rapid elevation from poverty to wealth, from humiliation to greatness, and for the bursting forth of that wondrous intellectual genius which distin-

guishes the immortal works of our greatest philosopher and our sublimest poet? 'Twas said of some professor, that he could lecture on a broomstick until he fired his audience with enthusiasm. 'Tis certain that whatever some men touch they dignify. But Lord John surpasses the most marvellous feats of this kind on record. He can treat of Whig statesmanship, usually deemed to be despicable for its extreme littleness, and raise, and purify, and poetize it, until he has identified it with all that is splendid, beautiful, and beneficent, in the past history and present condition of the human race.

Is it, however, as Lord John all but expressly asserts, and very fully as well as unquestionably implies? Is the proud position to which this country has risen amongst the nations of Europe, owing mainly to Draconic severity of criminal law which it is our boast that we have ameliorated, and to a legal provision for the relief of the poor, which whatever it may have done to mitigate the intensity of pauperism, has done not less to extend its area? Does the Whig Premier really imagine that the protection of life and property which admitted of the publication by Bacon of his *Novum Organon*, or in a somewhat later day, by Milton, of his "Paradise Lost," had any direct connexion with the genius of these men, or was superior, in fact, to that enjoyed during the last half century in Ireland? Can Lord John trace up England's present pre-eminence to no higher, no more probable causes, than "force and alms"? Or is he here, as oftentimes elsewhere, from sheer lack of invention, availing himself of now obsolete practices, and attributing British character and glory to what has merely co-existed with their growth, but has ministered to them nothing worth preserving? The hangman and the overseer—the halter and a parish settlement—noisome prisons which a Howard was destined to improve, and a workhouse administration which threatened to overwhelm property with pauperism—these, when it suits him, constitute the twin fountains from which social, intellectual, and political greatness has flowed down to the present generation.

Let us suggest another cause to his lordship of the happy results in which he is so deeply interested, a cause which, if he cannot reproduce in form, he may in spirit. Let us remind him that prior to the legislative acts, to which he is disposed to ascribe such marvellous and brilliant consequences, political circumstances had aided in the overthrow of a crushing spiritual despotism in England, and in the infusion into the popular mind of a new, a potent, and a glorious principle of social and national life. That glimpse, which in Henry the Eighth's reign, the people caught of freedom from sacerdotal bondage—that concentration of effort put forth in Elizabeth's days to realize it in all its advantages—that deadly struggle which in Charles's reign they were compelled to carry on, until its tragical termination in the execution of the monarch, with a view to save it from extinction—that brief enjoyment of it which Cromwell gave them, and longed to give them more unreservedly—that sudden succession, at his death, of disappointment to hope, in regard to it, of despair to disappointment, and of successful revolution to despair—the quickened thoughts, and fervid emotions, and divine principles, and unquarable energies, and lofty enterprise, and unbending will which this religious history and this sharp discipline of the British people tended to develop, and the application of them to their social and commercial, as well as civil and spiritual interests—the reaction consequent upon the sudden snapping of the chains which had for centuries bound them, and the inducements which exuberant energies found to exert themselves in every sphere open to them—in these, we think, Lord John might discover a more probable series of causes operating to the exaltation of England, and to the expansion of her influence, wealth, and power, than in coercion and poor-laws—in "force and alms."

Ireland, in the nineteenth century, as England in the fifteenth, has reached the crisis of her history. The slave of an ecclesiastical and landlord yoke, she has been paralyzed, and sits in forced idleness, and squalid misery, asking help. Lord John gives her a Coercion Bill, and Poor-laws, and tells her that is all he has to offer—that is—"You must be peaceable—and you shall not starve." But what? Ireland wants a new principle of social life. Providence has snatched from her the stay of her idleness, and the Whig Premier helps her to another, and then blesses his own wisdom. Were it not better to relieve the unhappy country from the dreadful incubus of bankrupt landlordism? *Laissez faire* may be a good principle where things are in a natural state—but is a cool perpetuation of wrong when that State has been overlaid by artificial arrangements. Lord John's predecessors have handcuffed Ireland's industry by foolish laws, and he, when asked to loose it, says—"I think it wise never to interfere with a nation's own energies." Why, then, does he encourage an Established Church there? But he must interfere to put Ireland back into a normal social position. And until this is done,

"force and alms" will do no manner of permanent good to her. We said *he* must—we mean, he must or some one else will.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE interest which has attached to foreign affairs, since February, 1848, increases rather than flags. The day of marvels has not yet passed. The fall of sovereigns—the choice of new ones, and the details of sanguinary conflicts, still combine with the details of memorable trials and heartless murders to render the columns of the daily broadsheet full of fearful interest.

News from the continent brings tidings of wars and rumours of wars—of the struggles of one people for national independence, of another for national existence, and of a third for national unity—in all of which cases Austria—the chosen favourite of our Tory press,—is the great obstacle to the success. We are personally preserved from the deplorable calamities which are still familiar to many continental countries, and are rather disposed to exult in our superior civilization and good sense. But whilst Lord Palmerston is, with praiseworthy energy, endeavouring to avert, or mitigate the consequences of war on the continent, and whilst the peace principle is being brought home to the minds and consciences of our population, our armies in the East are enacting similar scenes to those which all so much deplore in connexion with Northern Italy, and pursuing the same career of conquest and extermination for which we are forward enough to condemn Austria in her Hungarian struggle. But this by the way.

The campaign upon which Charles Albert entered against his Austrian foes has been shorter and more decisive than the most sagacious observer of the course of events could have anticipated. By his signal defeat, which he seems almost to have courted in a spirit of reckless hardihood, Austria has regained its ascendancy in Northern Italy. The dream of Italian independence of foreign influence is now indefinitely postponed. So far as Piedmont is concerned, the practical results of these events are not of much consequence. The integrity of her territory is guaranteed against Austrian aggression, by the difficulties in which her conqueror is involved elsewhere, as well as by the protection of France. The Piedmontese, who appear to have been, to a great extent, averse to a renewal of hostilities, have exchanged one sovereign for another, and at the worst, will be saddled with the expenses of the war.

But in Southern Italy, especially in the Roman territory, the effects of the success of Austria will be more severely felt. The restoration of the Grand Duke of Tuscany to his dominions by the agency of foreign intervention, will be little more than a nominal change in the political condition of his subjects. He can only return as a constitutional sovereign, and his previous career warrants the belief that he will avoid any attempt to re-establish that arbitrary rule, which was subverted long before his flight. But in Rome the return of the Pope will be a national calamity. "There, according to the traditional régime" (we quote the *Daily News*), "it is not a prince that rules, but a corporation—a sacerdotal corporation, or college of priests—whose sole principle and idea is the perpetuation and strengthening of priestly rule, and the confiscation of all power, principle, and property to the one idea—sacerdotal domination. There is, we are confident, no one amongst us, who has any adequate conception of the horrors and iniquity of the Government, which delivers over the lay and industrious population and their families into the power of the priesthood. The entire system of the Roman government is a net-work of espionage, robbery, corruption, inquisition, and murder. Being in complete possession of the administration, the police, the courts of justice (if they deserve the name), of the confessional, and even of municipal authority, the Roman priesthood turn all and every influence to their own personal and class aggrandisement." The opponents of the Papal rule comprise, not simply an ultra-democratic faction, but the bulk of the intelligent and wealthy classes of the country, who are united together in the strong conviction that no right, no freedom, and no happiness, is possible under the temporal rule of the priesthood. During the exile of Pius IX. and his priestly advisers, the whole system of government has been changed by the national voice. The country has been set free from sacerdotal domination, the property of the Church has been confiscated, the Inquisition abolished, and a liberal constitution adopted. The restoration of the temporal power of the Pope must inevitably throw it back into a state of barbarism and priestly rule. We may well ask with the *Daily News*—"Is it not a monstrous pretension for the rulers of countries like France and Spain, which have confiscated church property, and thrown off priestly domination, nay, for the ruler of a country like Austria, which also shook off sacerdotal interference with politics, to combine at the present day in what they call a Catholic league for the purpose of

imposing the worst and most rapacious and most degrading form of sacerdotal rule on the unfortunate region of Central Italy?"

Turning to Central Germany, we find that the question of the Headship of the Empire has been again resuscitated. The Frankfort Assembly, in opposition to its former vote, has by a small majority, resolved on offering the Imperial crown to the King of Prussia, and has sent a deputation to Berlin to make the proposal. There can be little doubt that Frederick William, if he do not absolutely reject the proffered honour, will couple its acceptance with such conditions as will amount to a virtual rejection.

Possibly, the decision of this important question may be hastened by the renewal of the war between Germany and Denmark, and the consequent necessity of a strong central Government at Frankfort. There seems now to be no doubt that the active mediation of Lord Palmerston to negotiate a peace has failed, through the unreasonable obstinacy of the King of Denmark. The armistice has expired. The more eager the German plenipotentiaries were for the conclusion of peace, the more indifferent did the Danes become on the subject. There is too much reason to fear that hostilities have already re-commenced, by a fresh attack of the Danish forces upon the province of Schleswig.

From the other side of the Atlantic we hear of the rapid progress of public opinion in favour of the abolition of slavery in the United States. No less a person than Henry Clay has taken up the question. In a letter to the people of Kentucky, on the approaching occasion of choosing a new constitution, he declares unequivocally that the time has come when a beginning must be made in this direction, and proposes a plan of gradual emancipation of the slave population of the States, the principal feature of which is colonization in Africa. It is doubtful whether emancipation will be allowed to proceed at so leisurely a pace as Mr. Clay proposes, but the confession by so distinguished a statesman, that it is inevitable, is calculated to an indefinite extent to hasten the overthrow of the accursed system of slavery.

VACANCY IN THE REPRESENTATION OF SHEPHERD.—On Monday, meetings of both sections of the liberal party were held, to select a representative in the room of H. G. Ward, Esq., who has been appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, and at each it was resolved to support John Arthur Roebuck, Esq. At a meeting of the ultra-liberal party, which included many of the friends of Sir Culling Eardley, the support which it was agreed should be given to Mr. Roebuck was coupled with the conditions laid down by the meeting of Normanton delegates, at the last election of the West Riding,—namely, opposition to further religious endowment, support of free-trade, economical reform, and a gradual and safe extension of the suffrage, to which was added a new condition in favour of the ballot.

NORTH HANTS ELECTION.—On Saturday the nomination took place at Winchester. Sir John Walter Pollen proposed Mr. Melville Portal as a fit and proper person to represent the county in Parliament—[mingled cheers and hisses]—as a supporter of the landed interest; Sir John adding, that Mr. Portal was no Tamworth man, but a true Protectionist. Mr. William Lutley Selater seconded the nomination. Mr. Lawrence, of Whitechurch, a large tenant-farmer, then came forward to propose Mr. William Shaw, chairman of the London Farmers' Club—[cheers and hisses]—describing him as a Protectionist—as being personally known to many of the farmers present as one of their own body, who had identified himself with them for 20 years as the legitimate farmers' friend. Mr. R. Pile, a large tenant-farmer, occupying nearly all the land in the village of Tufton, near Whitechurch, stated that he appeared before them to second the nomination of Mr. Shaw, adding that that gentleman had advocated things which would do the farmers good; he wished to put tithes on a right footing, to abolish taxes, and particularly the iniquitous income-tax, which pressed so unevenly on the farmer, whether he lost or gained. The tenant-farmers must now look to themselves; they had heretofore looked to those above them, but they had deceived them. It was, therefore, high time that they should all look to their own interests [cheers]. The farmers of Hampshire would not submit to take the nominee of the gentlemen of the county without even being consulted in the matter. The candidates then severally addressed the electors, and a show of hands was taken, which was decidedly in favour of Mr. Shaw. A poll was demanded by Sir J. Pollen, which was fixed for yesterday and to-day.

THE LIVERPOOL FINANCIAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.—The Council of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association have succeeded in prevailing upon Mr. Thomas Beggs, author of "An Inquiry into the Causes and Extent of Juvenile Depravity," "The Social and Moral Elevation of the People," &c., to visit the leading towns of the kingdom as their deputation. We understand that Mr. Beggs will aid in the formation of new associations, take part in public meetings, and deliver lectures where the friends of the movement may deem it advisable.

REGULATION OF BEER-HOUSES.—The magistrates of the borough of Leeds have adopted a petition to the House of Commons, recommending a more stringent system of licensing houses for the sale of beer than that which is present law.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

AFFIRMATION BILL.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. W. P. WOOD, in moving that the House should go into committee on this bill, said he should not trouble the House with any statement unless the motion was opposed.

No one rising, the question was put that the Speaker do leave the chair, and the House went into Committee.

The following clause was added:—

And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the governor of any of her Majesty's foreign dominions, plantations, or colonies, by writing under his hand, to appoint one or more competent officer or officers to receive and file such certificates as are by this act directed to be filed by the clerk of the peace or sheriff's clerk; and upon any such appointment being made, all the provisions of this act shall be in force in that part of her Majesty's foreign dominions, plantations, or colonies, wherein such appointment shall be made, and shall extend therein to the case of every person who shall obtain such certificate as in this act mentioned, from any justice or magistrate acting therein within his jurisdiction, and who shall cause the same to be filed with the proper officer appointed by the governor as aforesaid in that behalf.

The other clauses were agreed to, and the bill passed through committee.

On Friday, the report on this bill, with amendments, was brought up and received.

Mr. WOOD understood that the right hon. member for Cambridge University (Mr. Goulburn) intended to oppose this bill, but he hoped the right hon. gentleman would not raise any discussion until the next stage of the bill—the third reading.

Mr. GOULBURN considered that a discussion on the principle of the bill, to be of any use, ought to be taken before it arrived at the last stage.

After a short conversation between Sir E. Buxton, Mr. WOOD, and Mr. GOULBURN, it was arranged that the third reading should be fixed for Wednesday, the 18th of April, when the discussion should be taken.

LANDLORD AND TENANT BILL.

On the order for going into committee upon the Landlord and Tenant Bill, on Wednesday, Mr. H. HARRIS moved, by way of instruction, that it be extended to Ireland.

Mr. PUSEY, who had charge of the bill, no longer resisted this proposition, which was supported by Mr. S. CRAWFORD, and assented to (with wonderful unanimity) by the Irish members.

The motion, after a reiteration of his objections to the bill by Colonel SMITH, was agreed to.

The House then went into committee, and, upon the first clause, plunged into a long and most perplexed discussion of the details, not merely of the bill, but of the matters affected by it, involving all the mysteries of rural economy—manuring, draining, artificial feeding, &c.; and three hours having glided away without any very perceptible progress having been made, Mr. PUSEY yielded to the wish of several members, that the Chairman should report progress, and he fixed the further consideration of the bill for Wednesday, the 18th of April.

INSOLVENT MEMBERS.

On the motion to take into consideration the report on the Insolvent Members Bill, a very discursive conversational opposition was renewed by a number of members. Mr. MOFFATT had moved the recommitment of the bill *pro forma*, with a view to introduce several alterations suggested to him from various quarters. Sir W. CLAY objected to go on at an hour so late. Mr. OSBORNE asked if it were the aim to convert the House into a new Palace Court; and hinted to Mr. Moffatt the prevalence of rumours that the bill is directed against one particular member. Mr. MOFFATT emphatically denied this; calling for credit on the strength of the quiet and independent course he had pursued in the House. Mr. HENLEY, Mr. VERNON SMITH, Mr. STUART WORTLEY, and Mr. ROUNDALL PALMER, then commented on the great alterations the bill had undergone, and urged postponement of further proceedings till after Easter. Mr. ANSTAY, with the bill in his hand, declared that of the two prayers made by the petitions presented in support of the bill, not a word was said about the prayer that the House would take steps to enforce the payment of their creditors by members of Parliament. Colonel THOMPSON thought there was something unfortunate and colourable in the title of the bill, if Mr. Anstay's criticism were just: it was surely required that Cæsar's wife should be above suspicion. Lord JOHN RUSSELL approved of the object of the bill; but observed that it would be dangerous to the measure if it went up to the House of Lords in a shape to which they could not assent, but which they would not have the power to amend.

The SPEAKER recommended Mr. Moffatt to withdraw this bill, and introduce an entirely new one, with all the amendments which he wished to make incorporated in it; as the present bill had undergone so much alteration, and encountered so much opposition.

Mr. MOFFATT demurred; as experience taught him, that a bill produced by a private member after Easter had no chance of being carried through. But, contrary to his own opinion, he presently afterwards bowed to the Speaker's suggestion; and, amidst laughter, withdrew his bill; moving for leave to bring in another. Leave was given.

IRISH AND SCOTCH SAVINGS' BANKS.

In moving for a Select Committee to inquire into the failure of the St. Peter's Parish Savings' Bank, in Cuffe-street, Dublin, on Thursday, Mr. REYNOLDS preferred charges of gross misconduct, not only against the managers of the bank, but also against the Government and Mr. Tidd Pratt. The bank was established in 1818; in 1831 the actuary absconded,

leaving the sum of £8,000 unaccounted for. The Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt deputed Mr. Tidd Pratt to inquire into the circumstances. He found that the bank had to its credit a surplus of £3,600, and advised that this should be made available to pay depositors; recommending also that this bank should be kept open, as it was in good credit, and that the surplus profits should be appropriated towards the payment of the balance. In 1832 the bank had a total surplus of £36,000. In 1833 it showed a deficiency of £3,671; £39,630 having been lost by fraud and speculation in twenty-four months. And that deficiency grew to £32,922 in 1847,—i. e. on the face of the accounts, but the real deficiency was £48,000. The number of depositors in the Cuffe-street Savings' Bank was 1,664; the average amount held by each nearly £25. The failure had caused the greatest misery: one man died of brain fever; other persons committed suicide. Mr. Tidd Pratt had decided that the trustees were not liable. Mr. Reynolds contended that Government is morally bound to make good the deficiency, especially as the bank had been kept open on the advice of Mr. Tidd Pratt, although the Government might have closed it, and so prevented the receipt of further deposits.

Mr. HENRY HERBERT moved that the inquiry be extended to Savings' banks at Tralee and Killarney, where the circumstances are very similar, and at Auchterarder in Scotland.

The motion was also supported by Mr. NAPIER, Mr. FAGAN, Mr. JOHN O'CONNELL, Mr. GREGAN, Mr. COWAN, Mr. KNOCK.

Sir CHARLES WOOD objected, that the inquiry would be expensive and useless. Government has nothing to do with the management of Savings' banks in Ireland—they are voluntary establishments; Mr. Tidd Pratt is not an officer appointed by Government, but he is an arbitrator appointed by act of Parliament; and it is evident that if the managers of the bank had acted on his advice, they would have been able to pay the whole amount of their liabilities.

Mr. GOULBURN corroborated this representation.

The result was unexpected. The state of the House induced the friends of the motion, who mustered in a large proportion, to hasten a division. Mr. GRATTAN was induced to cut short his eloquence; Mr. MONSELL obeyed a hint to say little; Mr. REYNOLDS replied in a single sentence. A supporter of Government, Sir HARRY VERNY, spoke for a time inaudibly. Meanwhile, energetic "whipping" proceeded on both sides, and at last the House divided. Mr. Herbert's amendment was carried by 49 to 42; then the original motion as amended was carried, by 51 to 48.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN STOCKPORT.

In drawing attention to a petition from certain inhabitants of Stockport, on Thursday, Lord STANLEY made a statement of great length, alleging various intrigues in the removal and replacement of magistrates for a corrupt purpose. The main assertions are these. Stockport had been a Liberal borough; but in June 1848, by divers casualties, the Magistrates on the bench were reduced to seven Liberal and six Conservative, including in the latter an *ex officio* Magistrate. Mr. Henry Coppock, brother of Mr. James Coppock, the Parliamentary agent, held the offices united of Town-clerk and Clerk to the Magistrates, at a stipulated salary of £500, paying fees into the Borough Fund. Seeing the number of his supporters dwindle, he procured three Magistrates to apply for an extension of the commission; five names being specially recommended to the Lord Chancellor. Hearing of this, the Town-council met and declared, *nemine dissentiente*, that no more Magistrates were required. By the election of the 9th of November, 1848, the Liberal majority of the Town-council was converted to a Conservative majority, and Mr. Coppock was removed from his office of Town-clerk. Instead of giving up the commission of the peace to his successor, he transmitted it to his brother in London, by whom it was lodged in the Crown-office; and on the 13th of November it was announced that five new Magistrates had been added to the commission—four Liberals and one Conservative, that one being already an *ex officio* Magistrate for a year: the manifest object was to retain Mr. Coppock in his office as Clerk to the Magistrates, to annul the consolidation of the offices, and to reserve to him the fees heretofore paid into the Borough Fund. One of the new Magistrates was Mr. James St. John Yeates, the Judge of the County Court; whose implication in these transactions Lord Stanley severely censured.

The LORD CHANCELLOR explained; speaking for some time inaudibly. In substance he contended, that the additional number of Magistrates was rendered necessary by the greatly increased population of Stockport; that those persons who had opposed the addition when it threatened to add Liberal members to the bench had been willing enough when the new Magistrates were to be Conservatives; that if there was a strong feeling in the borough against the appointment, there was also a strong one in its favour; and that the persons selected for appointment were men of unexceptionable character, and quite fitted for the office.

The Marquis of SALISBURY strongly protested against the doctrine which Lord Cottenham seemed to sanction, that the Lord Chancellor may use his patronage for the promotion of political partisans.

The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

THE RATE-IN-AID.

The House of Commons spent the greater part of Friday evening in the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Irish Rate-in-aid Bill. The

bill was opposed by Mr. NAPIER, Mr. BATESON, and Mr. GRATTAN; it received a qualified assent from Mr. SHAFTO ADAIR; Sir ROBERT PEEL supported her Majesty's Ministers.

The arguments on the particular measure were not new, but the most telling of them were strung together by Mr. NAPIER in a manner to expose the difficulty and utter inefficiency of the project. Mr. Napier also threw out doubts as to the practicability of Sir Robert Peel's recent suggestion. He specially instanced an estate belonging to the Marquis of Lansdowne, which contributes three-fourths of the paupers in a particular union, not because the estate is ill-managed, but simply because it is over-peopled: what would be gained by a change of proprietors in the numerous cases of that class?

This drew forth Sir ROBERT PEEL, in a long speech—the most useful speech of the whole session—on the social condition of Ireland, with a further development of his suggestion.

Sir Robert described the actual state of Ireland, and especially of the distressed unions, quoting well-known authorities. By bringing every part together, he composed a forcible picture of the utter destitution and helplessness of the people; the insolvency of the landowners in several parts; the immense drag upon England in the shape of aid, of military custody, &c. In the same manner, he showed how hopeless it would be to look for the rescue of Ireland through any agency under existing systems; through the revival of the potato crop—that delusive hope of an enfeebled and redundant population; through a change of agricultural system—impracticable, with the proportion of people on the land; through the Court of Chancery, which swallows up the proceeds of the estates it manages.

He then glanced at what may be done by the infusion of the necessary elements and the guarantee of needful facilities. He read extracts from a letter addressed to him by a man of humble origin in Lancashire, who has established four sons on the west coast of Ireland, in a part which we suppose to be so wild and savage that it is impossible to live in it with profit or advantage. The letter is dated the 23rd March, 1849. The writer says, he had taken on perpetuity, a lease on the west coast of Ireland. He had planted four of his sons there. To encourage habits of industry, one is buying all the stockings brought to him to send to England; another has purchased a hooker of twenty-five tons, and is endeavouring to encourage fishing on the coast; another was employing upwards of a hundred labourers daily last year, but on account of being heavily taxed for his improvements, turning them off with the exception of ten or twelve. The fourth son, writing to his father, [on the 16th March, 1849,] says—"The more I see, the more am I convinced that this country has the best prospects of any place I know of [laughter]. There is every desideratum for the enjoyment of a contented and prosperous life." He is writing this in the midst of all the misery surrounding him. "In fact, I think, that rent, groceries, with some extras for clothing, &c., should be the only expenditure of a person in this country, when once properly settled."

The main features of Sir Robert Peel's plan, as he now described it, are these. To appoint a commission to undertake the general charge and superintendence of the distressed unions: the commissioners to aid relief by encouraging drainage, by employing labour in opening the roads through inaccessible districts, by erecting piers for the accommodation of the fisheries, &c. He pointed to the commission for the management of lands confiscated after the rebellion in 1745, as being in principle a precedent and example. Emigration should be used as an auxiliary measure. He would encourage rather than prevent voluntary emigration; but it fails to take out the most suitable classes—it removes either those who have energy and means, or the exceedingly destitute and diseased; who bring discredit on emigration. He would have effective superintendence, and even pecuniary aid to facilitate the movements of the emigrant. Above all, he would facilitate the transfer of property from insolvent to solvent proprietors, by a short process, giving a complete title, to devise which, he invoked the equity lawyers of the House, Mr. Napier and Mr. Stuart. Rather than that the present state of things should continue, "he would see the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery ousted altogether." He would abandon the system of giving gratuitous relief; returning in the main to the effectual test, the work-house test of 1838.

In conclusion, Sir Robert showed how the empire would benefit by rendering its weak province strong and prosperous. "It has pleased God to afflict us with a great calamity; but I do not despair that you may be able to convert that calamity, grievous as it is, into the means of future improvement and of future prosperity [loud cheers]. I entreat you to consider whether 'out of this nettle danger we cannot pluck the flower safety,' and convert this grievous affliction into a means of permanent improvement, and into a source of future security" [prolonged cheering].

The debate was again adjourned.

Mr. BRIGHT resumed the debate on Monday night, in a speech of great power and eloquence, which was most favourably received on all sides. He said he had voted for a rate-in-aid in the committee and in the House, and he was prepared to justify that vote, not only on the ground of a great emergency which must be met, but chiefly on the ground that the rest of the United Kingdom had, during the three last years, paid its own rate-in-aid for Ireland to a far greater amount than this rate would levy upon the rateable property in Ireland—first, from the general taxation of the empire; secondly, in the shape of large subscriptions from private sources; and, thirdly, in very heavy local rates for the support of pauperism which had cunningly escaped from Ireland to England. He showed the groundlessness of the lamentations from Ulster, and the inapplicability of an income-tax to the relief of the poor. The maladies of Ireland were not, however, to be cured by a poor-law or a rate-in-aid. If the people could be set to work, they could support themselves; if not, they must be supported by taxation, or left to starve. Land, labour, and capital, were found in Ireland; but the land was held under circumstances which repelled capital and labour, and consequently that

great raw material was bound up. Here was the great evil; what was the remedy? The Government had proposed none; Sir R. Peel had suggested a plan which, so far as he had developed it, appeared rather vague and impracticable. The true remedies were, the removal by Parliament of every obstacle to the free sale and transfer of land by prompt and speedy process, a modification of the landed tenures, and a judicious disposal of waste lands. We must retrace our steps, he observed, abandon the errors and the crimes of past legislation, free the land, unshackle industry; and not till then may we hope to build on a sure foundation the edifice of union and peace.

The Marquis of GRANBY and Mr. C. FORTESCUE opposed the measure; the latter because he preferred an income-tax. When the last-named gentleman resumed his seat some amusement was created by the fact of about a score of members rising simultaneously with the view of following him in the debate. The Speaker, however, called upon

Mr. DISRAELI, who opposed the rate in aid as inadequate, impolitic, illusory, and unjust. In passing, he paid a graceful compliment to Mr. Bright, whose speech he had listened to with the greatest pleasure and gratification, as he must do to every demonstration of intellect which sustained the reputation of that assembly [cheers]. Mr. Disraeli then criticised, in no favourable spirit, the "revelations" of Sir Robert Peel, which he thought were not remarkable for novelty. Their characteristic feature was, that, somehow or other, England was to appropriate the misgoverned and mismanaged portions of Ireland, and the regeneration of that country was to be accomplished by a change of the tenures of land—in other words, by a considerable home colonization in Connaught. Mr. Disraeli pointed out the fallacies which lurked under the scheme, and the dangers which menaced it on every side, for the lands which Sir R. Peel had assumed to be waste were not depopulated, and any attempt to reproduce, even in a mitigated form, in the West of Ireland, the Ulster scheme of plantation, could have, in his opinion, only a calamitous issue. He then examined, in the same severe and satirical strain, the suggestions of a High Commission, and of a Parliamentary title, and asked Irish members to consider, before they gave their adhesion to this project, whether it was a matured or a crude and ill-advised one. He opposed the plantation scheme because it was dangerous; the High Commission, because it would be nugatory; and the Parliamentary title, because it was unjust. In conclusion, Mr. Disraeli made a powerful attack upon the Irish Poor-law, which, as he showed, operated to prevent the outlay of capital upon the improvement of the land. He acknowledged that Ireland was bound to make an exertion on her own behalf, and he was ready to support an income-tax, but in conjunction therewith the workhouse test must be resorted to, and the area of taxation under the Poor-law diminished.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL vindicated the Government from backwardness in bringing forward remedial measures for Ireland, and by analogy with the cases of England in the 16th century, and Scotland in the 17th, he showed that beneficial changes must be wrought, not by any specific measures, but by gradually making men feel that they were living in security, and by leading them by easy and natural courses to seek their own prosperity. He described the dejected state into which Ireland had been brought, even in its prosperous times, by the vicious system of conacre cultivation and the dependence of the people upon the potato, and he justified the Poor-law as a step to improvement, it being a measure not only of humanity but of security; and he stated the changes he proposed to make in the law. He next discussed the subject of voluntary emigration, taking a different view of that subject from Sir R. Peel, a great portion of the capital which sets that emigration in motion being transmitted from America. Lord John then approached the plan proposed by Sir R. Peel. A commission, he observed, must either have compulsory powers or be of a voluntary character. Sir Robert had referred to the Ulster plantation, but there was an obvious difference between the two cases. In the Ulster case, the land was at the disposal of the Government, and people were not on the land; in the present case, the land was not in our power, and the people were on the land. Lord John entered at some length into an examination of the other parts of Sir Robert's plan, and with respect to the laws which encumbered the transfer of landed property he thought Parliament might deal with them; but this must be done with due regard to the rights of property, or the measure would defeat its own object. Measures were in contemplation for the relief of Ireland, but no general plan would satisfy those who asked for "large and comprehensive measures," by which the evils of Ireland could be cured. Many of these evils, such as the excessive cultivation of the potato in small patches, were beyond the reach of any Government; and he recommended the House, with reference to this bill, to consider that the two kingdoms were one united kingdom, and not to forget that no misfortune could happen to one without being a deep calamity to the other.

On the motion of Mr. J. O'CONNELL, after some opposition, the debate was again adjourned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE DEFEAT OF CHARLES ALBERT.—In the House of Lords, on Thursday, Lord BROUGHAM adverted, with indecent exultation, to the abdication of the King of Sardinia; and the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, in more measured and discreet terms, expressed his satisfaction at the result of the conflict in Northern Italy, as being favourable to the preservation of the

peace of Europe. On Friday, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE announced, that the new King of Sardinia had concluded an armistice with the Commander of the Austrian forces, with a view to further negotiations; upon which the Earl of ABERDEEN pronounced a eulogy upon the magnanimous conduct and brilliant success of Marshal Radetzky. On Monday, the same subject was again referred to; Lord BROUGHAM thought he should be in order, if he asked whether the Polish General who had acted as Commander-in-Chief of the ex-King of Sardinia's army had been recommended to fill that office by the British Government? The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied, that neither the Polish General, with his unpronounceable name, nor, in fact, any one else, had ever been so recommended by the British Government. The Earl of ABERDEEN, considering the manifest partiality which had been shown for the King of Sardinia by the British Government, was not surprised that such a notion as that referred to by Lord Brougham had got abroad. He only hoped that the Government would leave matters as they now stood, and not prolong the war by any further attempt at mediation. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE repelled the charge of partiality towards the Sardinians, brought by Lord Aberdeen against the Government, and begged the noble earl to wait until the papers relating to Italy were laid before the House. After some further discussion, in which the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH and Earl FITZWILLIAM took part, the subject was dropped.

ROMAN WORKS OF ART.—On Friday Mr. J. O'CONNELL asked whether the Government would permit the importation into this country, for the purpose of sale or delivery to purchasers, of works of art, sold, or about to be sold, by the Provisional Government of Rome, which he considered very much in the light of stolen goods [hear, hear].—Lord J. RUSSELL said, he did not know of any law which would enable the Government to prevent the importation of these works of art, even if they were disposed to do so. It would be necessary to propose some alteration of the law for that purpose, and such alteration the Government were not inclined to propose. If the hon. gentleman meant to ask whether the Government would give any sort of encouragement to the purchasing of these pictures and works of art, he could state there was no intention to do so [hear, hear].

PUBLIC BUSINESS.—A protracted conversation ensued on Monday on Lord John Russell's motion, that from and after the 19th day of April, and every alternate Thursday following, orders of the day should have precedence of notices of motion; the noble lord availing himself of that opportunity of referring generally to the state of public business before the house. At length the motion was agreed to. The noble lord, in answer to Mr. Horsman, stated that he was in communication with the Bishop of Durham on the subject of the rectory of Bishop Wearmouth, and he should be able to state, after Easter, when a bill would be introduced relative to that rectory.

THE RUSSIANS IN THE BLACK SEA.—Lord PALMERSTON, on Monday, in reply to Mr. Anstey, observed, that the Russian Government had not demanded permission from the Porte for the Russian squadron to pass from the Black Sea to the Bosphorus.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND).—Sir G. GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill for the regulation of the Public Health in towns in Scotland, which having been done, the bill was read a first time.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL obtained leave to bring in a bill to regulate Charitable Trusts in England, which was founded on the bill of last year. The bill was subsequently brought in and read a first time.

NOTICES OF MOTION.—Mr. OSBORNE immediately after Easter, to move that the House resolve itself into Committee to take into consideration the temporalities of the Irish Church. Sir W. MOLESWORTH, after Easter, to call the attention of the House to the Colonial policy of the British empire.

PARLIAMENTARY OATHS.—In reply to a question from Mr. Goulburn, Lord J. RUSSELL stated the bill on this subject would be brought forward on Monday, the 30th inst.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE OF THE VICAR OF PRESCOT.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the suicide, on Thursday, of the Rev. Mr. Chapman, the recently-appointed vicar of Prescott. The rev. gentleman, who was about 30 years of age, was staying at the time of the dreadful occurrence with a sister at St. Albans. He had only been appointed to the vicarage of Prescott about three months. His health, we believe, was indifferent, and the thought of the heavy charge (from the extent of the parish) which he had undertaken, acting upon a conscientious and over-sensitive mind, depressed his spirits, and led to the commission of the rash act. The suicide was effected by cutting his throat. The appointment to Prescott rests, we believe, with King's College, Cambridge.—*Liverpool Albion*.

LORD J. MANNERS FOR SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—There is every probability of Lord J. Manners being induced to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of South Nottinghamshire, in which the resignation of Colonel Rolleston will shortly create a vacancy. A requisition is in course of signature, inviting Lord J. Manners to allow himself to be put in nomination. Mr. Bromley, son of Sir Robert Howe Bromley, Bart., of Stoke-hall, has also been requested to offer himself as a candidate, and has acceded to the request.—*Derbyshire Courier*.

THE STANFIELD-HALL MURDERS.—TRIAL OF RUSH.

The trial of James Blomfield Rush, at the Norwich Assizes, for the murder of Mr. Jermy, commenced on Thursday. As few new facts appeared in the evidence, the features of interest are solely connected with the incidents which marked the conduct of the trial. The local gentry attended in great numbers: the Earl of Leicester, Earl Cadogan, the Bishop of Norwich, and several Members of Parliament, were present. Mr. Baron Rolfe was the Judge; Mr. Sergeant Byles, Mr. Prendergast, and Mr. Evans, appeared for the Crown; the defence was conducted by the prisoner himself, without professional assistance; so Mr. Baron Rolfe acted on the old maxim that the Judge is counsel for the undefended prisoner.

The opening speech of Mr. Byles supplies a fair statement of the connected case, supported by the Crown evidence. The prisoner was a debtor to Mr. Jermy in £5,000, secured by a mortgage of Potash farm, under which Mr. Jermy might take possession of that farm on the 30th October, 1848, if the money were not paid. In addition, Rush was tenant of two farms of Mr. Jermy, called Stanfield farm and Felmingham farm. Rush lived on the Stanfield farm-house, at about a mile from Mr. Jermy's house of Stanfield-hall. It seems that Rush got into arrears of his rent and mortgage interest, and had been sued at law and ejected from one of the farms. The title to the two farms held of Mr. Jermy has been litigated between Mr. Jermy and some other descendants of a common ancestor; and some of the representatives of Mr. Jermy's opponents had visited at Rush's house. He espoused their cause, and published a pamphlet in which he spoke of Mr. Jermy as a man without common honesty and a villain; saying, "He has no right to the Stanfield-hall property—he knows it, and he knows I know it as well. If there is truth in the Bible, such villainy is sure to be overtaken, and that when it is least expected." On the 3rd of October, two claimants of the property, named Jermy and Larnier, met him in London by appointment, at the room of Miss Emily Sandford, whom he represented as a lady of property that would help them to regain their inheritance; and he made an agreement with the two men, under which he engaged to help them to recover the Felmingham farm, and they in return granted him a lease of it at a beneficial rent from the 11th October, 1848. These two persons went down to Felmingham to take possession, but returned next day.

The mode in which Rush obliged Miss Sandford to sign some simulated deeds, his habits of going out at night after poachers, and the circumstances under which he left his house on the 28th of November a short time before the murders, as well as the facts of the murder, were stated as they had already been narrated.

The witnesses examined on the first day were Mr. Cann, a solicitor; Eliza Chestney, the housemaid; Watson, the butler; and Reid, the cook. Eliza Chestney was still suffering severely. "She was introduced lying upon a neatly-constructed litter, which was borne into court upon the shoulders of four men; and in order to afford sufficient accommodation, the witness-box was removed and the space near it cleared. The side of the bed was so placed that the face of the unfortunate girl was turned towards the prisoner, and, by means of pillows, obliquely towards the judge. She was attended by Mr. Nicholls, the surgeon, who sat by her during the whole examination. She answered all the questions with great firmness and confidence." Her voice is described as singularly musical; and it is observed that Chief Baron Pollock, who stood among the spectators, "was affected to tears the moment he heard her speak."

The prisoner cross-examined the witnesses, with the object of showing material discrepancies between their present testimony and their depositions before the coroner and magistrates; but he did not make out any points of importance. Mr. Cann, a solicitor, was especially questioned at great length, with the object of showing that he had prejudiced the defence by using, as clerk of the magistrates, knowledge which Rush confided to him as his private solicitor. This imputation was not made out with any distinctness; and the judge at last mildly put an end to it with the remark, "Granted that you are ill-treated, what then? It may prove that you were wrongfully committed, but you are now on trial for the fact." He next endeavoured to bring out facts in extenuation of his violence before the magistrates. Baron Rolfe again interposed:—"We should have known nothing of your being violent, if you had not brought it out yourself; and I must tell you, that if you had been a person in a humble rank in life, and more ignorant, I should have endeavoured to prevent you from committing yourself as much as you have done; but as it is, you must take your own course. In the meantime, I do not see that this has anything to do with the case."

Prisoner: "Oh, my Lord, but you will see it afterwards. I have nothing to rest on but my innocence, and I hope the jury will see their importance afterwards."

The Judge: "Well, it will go to the jury, and it is for them to determine."

The case was adjourned at seven o'clock till Friday.

The reporters of the morning papers give sketches of Rush's aspect and carriage. This is from the *Times*:—"Without any attempt at minute description, it may be said that Rush is a powerfully-made man, with strong, but rather coarsely-moulded limbs, and below rather than above the middle height. His shoulders, which are slightly inclined

forwards, support a short bull neck, on which a large and massive (globular) head, which a craniologist would declare indicative of the possession of strong animal passions and considerable intellectual power, is firmly set in such a way as to render it rather difficult for its owner to look straight before him. His mouth, and the general formation of his jaw and of the lower part of his face, betray great determination and an unflinching will." Another says:—"He may be called a well-looking man—his countenance presenting no disagreeable feature, rather the reverse. He is of a ruddy complexion, and wears full whiskers, which pass under the chin and encircle the face. His hair is inclining to grey; but his whole appearance may be said to indicate a man even younger than he is described to be." Again—"He has undergone little change from his long confinement. His hand trembled very much occasionally, and his body now and then was slightly agitated; but his voice and bearing were perfectly firm, and tempered by an air of submissiveness very like what might be expected in an injured man. He looked confidently around him, but not with any expression of bravado, for he seemed to feel perfectly the danger of his position; and it was a most remarkable spectacle to see the resolution with which he went through long cross-examinations of the witnesses produced—asking the most minute questions, and yet never appearing to give way to any flippancy of manner. Little incidents during the trial appeared to affect him much. The judge complained of the noise in the court, as very injurious to the fair hearing of the prisoner's cause; and instantly his voice became broken and his frame agitated by the strength of his emotions. The description of the murders by Sergeant Byles seemed to affect him; and his voice lost its firmness, and his whole manner its resolute tone, at the most telling parts of Eliza Chestney's evidence."

SECOND DAY, FRIDAY.

When the trial was resumed, on Friday morning, the prisoner appeared as collected as on the previous day, and deliberately and systematically arranged his papers while the jury was sworn, and before the first evidence was taken, made a complaint against a new witness, named How, who, he said, was of bad character, and ought not to have been brought forward. The first witness was E. Harvey, a carpenter, who had walked over from Wymondham to the hall on the night of the 28th of November, in company with the laundry-maid, Mary Clark, and two others, who swore to having seen a flash as of a gun or pistol, seeing a figure near the porch, hearing a report and other indications calculated to excite alarm, but was not near enough to identify any person.

Emily Sandford was then called. She was dressed in mourning and looked very pale. She was quite collected and firm. Rush hastily rose after she had been sworn, and said the witness could prove his innocence—he felt it his duty to say this, for he possessed in such a matter as this a higher power than his lordship. Mr. Baron Rolfe said he would hear her evidence; if she committed perjury she was liable to punishment. The whole case was for the jury to judge. If he could satisfy the jury of his innocence, no one would be more glad than himself.

Emily Sandford then said she became acquainted with Rush two years ago, and came down to reside with him at Stanfield-hall. In February, 1848, they went to London, at No. 2, Milne-street, Islington. She went by the name of James. On the 3rd of October she remembered persons named Lerner, Thomas Jermy, and Richard Read, coming there at seven in the evening. Some writings were produced; they were in her handwriting. [The witness frequently looked at the prisoner, but only for a moment at a time, when she withdrew her gaze. Her look on these occasions evinced much pity and concern.] Rush had previously told her to copy the document. She did so, and he gave it to her. When the parties above-named came he produced the paper; it had been lying on the table from the time she wrote it. It was read over aloud by some one whom she could not now remember. She saw all the parties put their signatures to it. The witness was here asked to move her chair forward. Rush suggested that she should have a footstool. The witness burst into tears, and repeatedly looked at Rush with much concern. A footstool was brought.

Examination continued.—She put her name to it after they were all gone, at Rush's request. Mr. Rush was to pay the expense of transmitting the papers to the country. Mr. Jermy and Mr. Lerner were cousins. The three left at nine o'clock; she never saw any of them after, except Read. Next day but one, the 6th, came to Norwich by Mr. Rush's direction. He had left on the 4th. She understood from him that she was to go to the Bowling-green Inn, Norwich. Rush met her at the railway station, and took her in a gig to Potash-farm. Rush and I slept in the same room that night. I left Potash some time afterwards. I think on the Tuesday following. On leaving Potash, Rush told me that Savory was to drive me to Norwich. The gig was brought round to the front door, and I saw Rush. He did not tell me where he would take me to. We rode some distance, when Mr. Rush and I got out of the gig, and walked on till I saw what I understood to be Stanfield-hall. He said, "You had better wait outside, and I go in." He then told me to wait there. He said if I was wanted he would send for me. I remained there twenty minutes. He then came out and joined me. I asked him if he had agreed with Mr. Jermy. He said he had. On getting back to the gig, Mr. Rush told Savory to drive to Norwich, which he did, and I went to the Bowling-green. I arrived there on Monday night, and slept there. On Saturday morning I went to Mr. Stacey's lodging by Mr. Rush's direction. Mr. Rush called on me at Mr. Stacey's in about a week after, and said he had some writing to occupy my time. He produced a written paper, from which I was to write, and the paper on which to write the copy. It was stamped. I made two copies. The Sunday after that he came again. He showed me one of the pieces of stamped paper which I

had written. He said to me, "I want you to put your name to what you did for me yesterday." He then gave me the papers, both pieces. The name of "J. Jermy" was added to it. I wrote my name against the word "witness." Mr. Rush went away from Norwich soon after that. I observed the date, and I mentioned that it bore the date of the same day on which we went to Stanfield. I said, "I may be a witness then, although I did not go;" we had some words together. He said he did not wish to make me a witness. Much time passed between us on the subject. He took the papers and went away, telling me they were only copies. I wrote a letter to him on the subject the next day. I know from the prisoner that he destroyed that letter. I wrote to him on the Monday. I cannot say he said he destroyed the letter. The letter was on the subject of being a witness. He was angry at my writing to him. He said, it was very indiscreet to write about such matters. On Friday, November 3, he took me to Potash. Young Mr. and Mrs. Rush were there when I got there. I took possession of one of the bedrooms. I lived wholly up-stairs while I was there. I remember doing some other writing for Mr. Rush. That was on Tuesday, November 21. He gave me something to copy. I copied it on to stamped paper. I copied them on the Tuesday morning. After I gave him the copy, he said, he was going to take the originals to Mr. Jermy to sign. I thought all three documents I wrote were the same. He went to Stanfield-hall, and returned to dinner. He went about half-past eleven in the morning, and returned shortly before two. When he returned, I asked him if Mr. Jermy had signed the paper? he said, "No," but he was going to call in the afternoon on his way to Felmingham. He said, Mr. Jermy had behaved very kindly to him. He appeared as though they had never had any words together. He said, "What a man Mr. Jermy is." He said, young Mr. Jermy kept coming in to hear the conversation, and old Mr. Jermy told him to leave the room. The elder Mr. Jermy said, he was not wanted after dinner. Mr. Rush told me, I had better take my walk. He said that after I came back he had a little writing to do. I returned in about half an hour. When I came in, I found a great many papers on the table. After I had taken off my things, he said, "I want you to put your name to those papers you wrote for me." I saw two of those papers. Those were the papers (receiving them from the learned counsel). There is another that I have not seen since Mr. Rush asked me to sign them. He said, "Put your signature to these, and the word witness." They were folded up, space being allowed me on which to write my name. I saw Mr. Rush write his name to the same document. I put my name first. I did not notice that the name of Isaac Jermy was appended to the document. I do not know whether it was there or not. When I gave Mr. Rush the paper in the morning, there was no name to it at all. I put my signature to this paper (the second) in the afternoon. Mr. Rush's name was not to it when I signed it. I don't know when he signed it. On Friday, the 24th of November, Mr. Rush went out for an hour or two in the evening. They had been at Potash-farm three or four days when he said he had to go out after poachers.

The examination had proceeded a little further when the witness, who was much exhausted and deeply affected, was permitted to retire for a few minutes. Rush followed her with his eyes until she left the court, when he resumed his seat in the dock.

When her examination was proceeded with, she said:—

On Sunday, the 26th, I saw Mr. Rush arranging his papers, and burning some. I knew on the Saturday previous that Mr. Rush had bought a ticket for me to go to Norwich on Tuesday, the 28th. It was a family ticket for five. Mr. Rush and I were to go, and at Norwich we were to meet a governess and two of Mr. Rush's daughters. Monday, the 27th, was my birthday. Young Mr. Rush and his wife remained in the house at Potash up to that time. They occupied the other side of the house. The servant went away. Mr. Rush and I had our dinner as usual on the Monday. He did not go to Norwich. He went out, but I did not see him go out or return. He was not gone out as long as usual. Not more than an hour and a half. I heard a report of fire-arms on the morning of Monday. Rush came into the parlour, and went up stairs, brought down his gun and fired it off. He had been out shortly before tea; he appeared very low. He said he was not very well. We had some conversation about going to the concert; I was unwilling to go to the concert, because he was unwell. He said he should go out again. I said I thought there was something more than poachers [sensation]. He said there was, and that he should only have two or three times more to go out, and then he should succeed. The witness here mentioned the anecdote of the spider, referred to in the speech for the prosecution. He had failed six times, but he would not fail now. He went out soon. I heard him go and speak to Savory after he came down the last time. She sat in the parlour while he was out. He returned about half-past nine. She heard him rap, and went to the door and let him in. He then went up stairs. I asked him if he would have a light. He said, "No, he would not." As he passed the parlour-door he told me to go to bed. He went up stairs and came down again. He came into the parlour. That was within a few minutes of the time he came in first. He had neither coat nor shoes on when he came down stairs and went into the parlour. I heard a noise when he came in, and I think he must have had boots or shoes on. He appeared very excited. He told me to take the top of the fire off and come to bed. In consequence of his appearance, I asked him what was the matter, and if anything had happened. He said, "No, nothing; if anybody inquires for me, say I was out only ten minutes." I put water on the fire, and went up stairs. I went up to Mr. Rush's room and knocked at his door. I said, "Which room shall I sleep in?" and he said, "Here." Immediately afterwards he said, "No, no." When he said that he came towards me and said, "Go into your own." He added, "You want your dress unfastened." Since I had been at Potash-farm Mr. Rush and I had always slept in the same bed. I went into my own room by Mr. Rush's directions. I observed when I went into his room that there was a fire burning bright. I had not lighted any fire before he came home. After I had been in my room some time I heard him go down stairs. He returned very shortly to his own room. He locked himself in when I went into my own room. I got into bed then.

After thinking a great deal about Mr. Rush, I fell asleep. About three o'clock in the morning Mr. Rush came and knocked at my door. I asked who was there, and he said, "It is only me; I want to wish you good night, undo your door." I undid the door, and he came into the bed-room. He said, "You must be firm; if any one asks you how long I was out, say only ten minutes." He added, "You may hear something in the morning." I was trembling; he said, "You appear as though you had the ague." He said he would fetch his great-coat and put over me. I asked him several times what had happened. I took him by the hand, and I found he was trembling very much. He said something about his poor mother, and he hoped God would bless me, for I had done nothing wrong. As he went out of the room he said something about a hat and a lining, but I did not know what it was about. I remember a peculiar pair of boots that Mr. Rush was in the habit of wearing, they were raised behind and opened at the sides. I have seen them repeatedly; seen them drying the next morning, as though they had been worn the night before. On the Saturday or Sunday I saw the boots in the house. Since that time I have never seen them. I remember Mr. Rush taking me to a closet in the parlour some few days before these transactions. There were two closets in the parlour and one in his bedroom. He showed me where he kept his papers that were valuable. He showed me one of the planks taken up. He showed me how to raise it by a chisel in case of fire. There was a cloak in the prisoner's bedroom. [The cloak was shown to the witness and identified as belonging to the prisoner.] Rush then cross-examined the witness. His earlier questions sought to elicit from her that his temper was amiable, that he paid every attention to his religious duties, and that he was in such a frame of mind as to make it impossible he could be guilty of a crime so horrible as murder. Owing to want of space we can only give brief extracts from the cross-examination. Rush: Have you not, whenever you have come into my bedroom, knelt down by my bed-side and said your prayers? Very frequently. Not always.—Had I any reason to believe that your conduct was inconsistent with your professions? My conduct bad. [Here in a loud tone of voice.] Not before I came to Norfolk. [Witness then leant her head upon her hands and wept bitterly.]—Have I not endeavoured to show kindness and consistency of conduct since I knew you? Yes.—Was it not agreed that I should have no further connexion with you, except that I should be a kind father to the children? Yes.—Do you recollect the reason I gave for adopting that course? No.—Was it not that we should have a houseful of children? The witness burst into tears.—The judge here interrupted this course of examination, saying that it was irrelevant. The prisoner then indulged in some inuendos against the witness, which she indignantly repelled. Hisses ran through the court, but they were instantly repressed by the officers.—Rush: Was I not sitting with you on the easy chair before tea on the evening of the murders? Witness: Yes; before you went out you asked me to come and kiss you, and I went over to you.—After sitting on my knee in the parlour, you did not go up-stairs to put on another dress. This is a matter of life and death, my dear, and I hope you will speak truly. I cannot recollect what I had on while sitting on your knee. After several questions as to what occurred on the night before the murders, he questioned her as to the events of Tuesday night, the 28th. The following were the most important questions:—Rush: Did you not ask, when I was unfastening your dress in my room, what was the matter? Yes, I was continually asking you.—Did I not tell you that I was coming into your room when you left mine? No.—Did I say anything which would lead you to expect that I was fearful of some one coming, and that therefore I did not wish to be in your room at night? I don't recollect.—At the time I was unfastening your dress in my room do you remember me complaining of being cold? No, I do not. Are you sure that you made no observation of the sort about my hands being cold when I unfastened your dress? No, I do not.—Don't you know that the front door won't keep shut unless it is fastened? I do not know that.—Where were you when I was going up stairs? In the parlour.—Have you not stated that you heard me go up stairs when you were elsewhere? No; I have not stated anything of the kind.—I must once more caution you against saying anything particularly. This is a matter of life and death, and therefore say whether after you left me that night I did not come in and get into your bed, saying at the time that you must have got the ague. Don't let false delicacy interfere with you. Did I not get into the bed? No; you rested yourself on the bed.—Did I not get into bed? No.—This is a matter of the greatest importance. I have great love and fidelity towards you, and I pray to God that you speak the truth. What was the first time I came into your room?—It was towards morning. It was quite dark.—Had you been asleep the first time I came in? Yes, I had, and you woke me by knocking at the door.—Did I get into bed at all when I came home? Yes, you got into bed on the second occasion. Thank you, that is right.—Judge: Did he get into bed on both occasions? Only the last time.—Rush: Was it not then that I complained of you as having the ague? It was not. It was the first time, when you were lying on the bed, that you complained of my shaking.—Judge: You had your hand in his? I had.—Did he get into bed after getting the coat? Witness: No; it was not on that occasion that he got into bed.—Prisoner: Did I not complain when I got into bed that I was as cold as you? No; I don't recollect.—Did I not say I got into bed in consequence of being so cold? I don't recollect.—But you complained of cold, did you not? Yes.—Was there anything said about my having stood at the window, or about my having been down stairs? No.—I ask you to recollect whether it was at the time I got into bed that you asked me whether I had been drinking anything? I don't recollect.—Do you recollect whether it was when I was in the bed you said, "For God's sake, what is the matter?" I asked you repeatedly what was the matter.—Which time was it when I said, "You will hear something before morning?" The second time.—Did I not say to you on the first occasion, "You will most likely soon hear of something wrong at Stanfield-hall?" You said so the second time.—Did I not give you any reason to expect that I was going to tell you what had taken place on the first time? No, not at all.—Did you not say, "I would rather not hear it?" No.—Rush: Parties who hear me may think I am saying a great deal against myself, but it will all come out afterwards. After I had been in bed for some time, did not the trembling go off? No; it

continued all the time.—And you trembled all the time too, I suppose? Yes; I was afraid something was the matter.—He then questioned her as to whether facility of access to the closet had been afforded her, which she admitted; also whether he had not eaten a hearty breakfast on the morning of his apprehension; whether she had read the reports in the papers of the evidence at the inquest, and then asked, Do you recollect when I came up to the landing between your bedroom and mine, and when the police were with me, that I told you what had taken place? No, I do not.—Did I tell you nothing? Yes; you said there was something up at Stanfield-hall.—Did you not know what had happened? No.—What did I tell you at last? You told me that the two Jermys were shot dead.—After one or two more questions, he said: I think, my lord, you had better now adjourn the case. I have a great deal to ask of the witness about the papers, which it is very important I should set right. The witness is not in a fit state to submit to be examined any longer. Look, poor thing, she is almost ready to drop off her seat now. The witness, however, continued under examination until eight o'clock, she having been in the box since ten o'clock in the morning.

The Court rose at ten minutes past eight.

THIRD DAY, SATURDAY.

The jury, on entering the court this morning, presented a dismal appearance. The persons selected were, with scarcely an exception, farmers, whose principal duties consist in roaming through the fields in open air. At the close of the protracted sittings of the second day they seemed greatly exhausted, and they were much more so this morning. After being in the custody of the sheriff's "bound bailiff" all night at the Maid's Head Inn, they rose this morning shortly before five o'clock, and, by way of exercise, were marched round the Castle-walk, in the custody of the officers and a dozen javelin men.

The prisoner Rush having been called, he was again put to the bar. He seemed to have lost little or none of his natural self-possession, and coolly bowed to one or two of his acquaintances, whom he recognised in the body of the court. He drew out and arranged his papers on the front of the dock, and quietly took his seat. He had been engaged nearly the whole of the night in writing in his cell.

Emily Sandford, *alias* the Widow James, whose evidence occupied the whole of the preceding day, was again placed in the witness-box, where she was accommodated with a seat. She seemed to be in a fainting—indeed, in an almost exhausted—condition. She looked deadly pale, the result of the excitement to which she has recently been subject, combined with the effects of her recent confinement. The cross-examination of Emily Sandford by the prisoner occupied nearly the whole day, but the questions he asked were, to a great extent, irrelevant. Almost at the commencement of the proceedings the following occurred:—

Prisoner: Who told you I said you were going to France?

Witness: Am I obliged to answer such questions, my lord?

Prisoner: I want to know who told you.

Witness (indignantly): It was my brother; and you did say so.

The Judge: You can't imagine what harm you are doing yourself by asking such irrelevant questions. You weaken greatly thereby the effect of evidence in your favour which may have come out.

Prisoner: I want to show that the witness has been prejudiced against me.

The Judge: Well, we won't discuss that now.

On another occasion the judge was obliged to interfere with the remark, that the prisoner went backwards and forwards to such an extent that he could scarcely follow. "It is almost impossible to do justice to your case, for not one-third of what you have asked has anything to do with it; and but for the peculiar position in which you are placed, I should not have allowed you to go on in such a manner."

Here is another scene:—

Witness: You always wished your letters to me to be burnt, because you did not wish them to be seen, and you promised to burn mine in return, but I now learn that they have been kept.

The prisoner [with much warmth]: Who told you so? Witness appealed to the Judge, who said to the prisoner, if you insist on putting such questions I shall hold you to the strict rules of evidence.

The witness [in an excited manner]: The morning you were taken away I saw letters of mine in your pocket-book. You suspected me of keeping yours, and I brought them before you and destroyed them. At Mrs. Stacey's you brought me brandy instead of wine and nuts, which you first proposed to bring.

Prisoner: When I brought you the pint of brandy did I not tell you it was to be taken when you were ill? On your oath did I offer it to you then?

Witness: You asked me to take a little then, which I refused unless you did so too, and as you took none neither did I [sensation]. You desired me to tell Mrs. Stacey that you were going to marry a rich widow, in order that such a report might get about Norwich, and I did so. You also told me to tell her that the widow was my aunt, and I did so.

Prisoner: Have you not told me that you would make me repent of breaking my promise to make you my wife after the birth of the first child?

Witness [with marked emphasis]: I told you when you broke your promise that before you died you would repent of not keeping your word [great sensation]. I told you that you would never prosper after breaking such a promise. You said I had made you a reformed man—when I charged you with being unfaithful, and you promised most solemnly to marry me.

Prisoner: Did you not feel vexed when I desired you to tell Mrs. Stacey that I was going to marry a rich widow?

Witness: No; I looked upon it as a joke, and laughed. You told me I should wear weeds, and I replied that as soon as ever I did so I should marry again. I wrote to you from Mrs. Stacey's on the subject of the agreement with Mr. Jermy, which I signed as a witness falsely,

and you quarrelled with me violently for doing so, saying that if I wished to complain I ought to do it personally, and you would not have such a letter fall into the hands of James or Mary or any one else for the world. I went to my bedroom, and after I had been there for some time you came and said that Mrs. Stacey would hear me crying so, and that I had better go to the sitting-room. You also said, "We must make it up, and think no more about it." I gave up a copy of my letter when you inquired for it. The paper now produced is one of the three copied by me at Potash.

Shortly after the witness retired for a time, exhausted with fatigue, and during her absence other witnesses were examined. Mr. Pinson, the governor of the gaol in Norwich, said,

I was present at the cross-examination of Emily Sandford, on the 3rd of December. On that occasion, the prisoner said, "If she (Sandford) signs that paper (pointing to the depositions) I hope her hand may rot; and if she bears a child by me, I hope it may be born with a brand upon it" [great sensation].

Evidence was given to prove that the forged deeds were Rush's handwriting, by a person who had been in the habit of writing for him. Emily Sandford was then recalled, and Rush proceeded to examine her at great length upon the depositions taken before the magistrates, at the close of which she retired, having been in the witness-box upwards of six hours.

Wm. Fred. Howe deposed to having heard Rush frequently use words of an unfriendly character towards Mr. Jermy; on one occasion he used the words, "If I could strike like you I would knock Jermy down like a bullock;" and on another, "It will not be long before I serve him with an ejectment for the other world." Towards the conclusion of this day's proceedings, a policeman was examined on some minor points, but his evidence was so confused and contradictory that the judge told him it could not be received. Here Rush threw himself back in his seat, and indulged in a hearty laugh at the poor policeman's expense. An application was then made for a postponement, whereupon Baron Rolfe informed the prisoner that the case for the prosecution would close on Monday morning. The prisoner must, therefore, be ready for his defence on Monday.

The Court then adjourned at half-past-seven, p.m.

FOURTH DAY, MONDAY.

On this day the case for the prosecution was closed—the Court sitting from nine a.m. to half-past five, p.m. Rush looked somewhat paler and more fatigued to-day, and his head appears to have acquired a very slight paralytic tremor, but his manner betrayed no abatement in the confidence and resolution with which he has conducted his defence throughout. The witnesses examined were chiefly policemen, whose evidence was rigorously dissected by the prisoner, with a view to detecting discrepancies. Their testimony was chiefly on the subject of the apprehension of Rush, and what took place at Potash farm on that occasion. George Pont testified that, when he apprehended Rush, the prisoner said:—"The two Mr. Jermy's murdered! I don't like these handcuffs. God knows I'm clear of that." And on a subsequent occasion, while in his custody, he said:—"I have been on much better terms of late with the old gentleman than I used to be. The young one and I could not get on." The witness further stated:—

From the time that I apprehended the prisoner till he was committed to Bridewell, I was present with him, except while at breakfast at Potash, when Osborne was in charge of him.

Mr. Prendergast.—Did you hear him say anything at the time?

Witness.—I heard him say in his bedroom, "It was about eight o'clock when the affair happened, some of you say?" whereupon one of the constables, named Morter, replied, "No one said it but yourself" [sensation].

After a lengthened cross-examination of this witness, Rush said:—

I won't examine this witness any more without having his depositions read; he has contradicted himself so often.

The Judge.—I only want to point out to you, prisoner, that although in some minute points you may fix a contradiction upon the witness, in 10,000 far more important facts you confirm him [sensation].

Prisoner.—I can't help that, my lord. This man has perjured himself.

The depositions of several of the witnesses were read as the case proceeded, at the desire of the prisoner, who succeeded in one or two instances in discovering one or two trivial discrepancies between the evidence given before the judge and that before the magistrates. Samuel Savon, a labourer, deposed to having seen Rush between the Wymondham-lodge and Mr. Colman's, going towards Wymondham, about 5 p.m. on the evening of the murder. John Larner and Thomas Jermy, co-claimants for the Jermy estate, were both called, but neither the counsel for the Crown, nor the prisoner, examined them; except that the latter replied to Mr. Sergeant Byles, that he was unable to write. Mr. Frederick Howe was re-examined at some length by Rush, who succeeded in showing that the witness had led a by no means respectable life. The cross-examination, however, in this, as in other cases, rather confirmed, than not, the main facts sworn to by the witness. Mr. W. P. Nichols, surgeon, deposed that he was in attendance on Mrs. Jermy, and that she was in such a state that she could not appear.

The prisoner objected to the case proceeding without an opportunity being given to him of coming at Mrs. Jermy's depositions, and also if it was not proved that Mrs. Jermy might not be able to attend hereafter.

The Judge: If the prisoner says there is most important evidence which can be, and is not produced, we may be obliged to postpone the trial.

Prisoner: Let Mrs. Jermy's depositions be read. It is quite clear, according to the act, that I am right.

After some further remarks it was decided that

the matter should stand over till the morning, in order that the prisoner might consult with his solicitor as to whether he would require Mrs. Jermy's depositions to be read or not. The case for the Crown closed about half-past five o'clock, and as the prisoner said he could not do justice to his case at that hour, his defence was postponed, and the Court adjourned.

SCIENCE AND ART.

THE SOLAR SYSTEM.—The first of an illustrated course of six lectures on the Physical Structure of the Solar System was delivered on Tuesday evening, by J. P. Nichol, LL.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Practical Astronomy in the University of Glasgow, under the auspices of the Whittington Club, 189, Strand. Upwards of 1,600 persons were present, the great room being crowded. Dr. Nichol was warmly greeted. He prefaced his observations with an assurance that no interest would be thrown around the lecture but that of faithful description. He first indicated the position of our globe in the heavens, in reference to its kindred bodies. Sir William Herschel's was the mind that threw light upon the material laws of the universe. He was led to mark special groups of fixed stars, and his powerful telescope being directed to them, orbs which had hitherto been considered as one body appeared out in two. The middle star in the tail of the Great Bear was found to be a double star. Before Herschel's time, only six or eight of these double stars were known, but the idea was that this appearance resulted from being nearly in the same visual line; when he promulgated his views, the scientific world were taken by surprise. He discovered, by his powerful telescope, that there existed double stars almost innumerable, and that demonstrated to his mind that all these stars could not be merely optically connected, but that they were actually or physically connected. The inference from this phenomenon was, that it was a systematic arrangement. Another inference presented itself, namely, that something must exist to prevent the collision of the two orbs, and he asked what it was that preserved the orbs in the solar system from collision with each other. The cause was their motion round the common centre of gravity. The inference was, that a great system of revolution was going forward amongst those orbs, amongst which we saw nothing but a splendid stability. The problem with reference to the motion of these orbs once discovered, proud, indeed, was science. Solar astronomy resolved itself into comparative littleness, as new discoveries gradually presented themselves—triple stars passing through complicated orbits, and quadruple systems of still greater complication of movements—sets of four stars physically connected, and other groups of five, six, and more stars, all sustained by complex motions. These groups already numbered many thousands, and the principles governing these extended to the greater collocation of systems, involving a vast and almost inconceivable mechanism of harmonious motions [cheers]. One point more was necessary to give them a notion of this vastness—what periods were required for this great mass of suns to complete their cycles. One had been calculated at 180,000 years. The constellation of Lyra could not complete its revolution in less than a million of our years. But imagination could not follow the demonstration of reason. Grand, indeed, was the conception of processes so majestic [cheers]. The question then arose, was there no activity within the skies but that of stars lying only unusually close to each other? Upon earth every atom was in motion. Were then these stellar activities confined to double stars? It was most unlikely that such should be the case. Herschel's mind was one of those that threw light again and again into the darkness. Judging from the grouping of trees in a plantation, he arrived at an explanation of the phenomena of the motions of the heavens in one mighty orbit. The problem had been investigated since Herschel's time, with every minuteness, by our most eminent astronomers. Our sun was not fixed, but passing along with the orbs that surrounded him in the immensity of space, and the velocity with which it was moving was approximately determined. In about 30,000 years the solar system would arrive at the locality of the fixed stars, and the appearance of the heavens would be completely changed. Even when we look at the heavens, we do not see them as they now exist, but as they existed 120 years ago, for light takes that time to arrive at the earth from these luminaries. The light of many of those stars just rendered dimly visible by Lord Rosse's telescope, would require 30,000,000 of years to reach the earth. Our solar system might arrive at some remote galaxy in a period of forty millions of years. All the orbs of the universe were in motion, and in process of time their configuration and the constellations themselves would be altered and fade from view. As time proceeded they should vanish, or would change, fulfilling the purposes of the Highest, and realizing in the end the idea of the ancient seer, "they shall perish, but Thou shalt endure; yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt Thou change them, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall have no end" [cheers].

THE HOP DUTY POSTPONED.—The *Sussex Express* of Saturday says:—"We have just received the important intelligence from our indefatigable member, C. H. Frewen, Esq., that the government have resolved on postponing the payment of the hop-duty from May, until after the next hop-picking is over."

THE HORRORS OF WAR.

Some extracts from the journal of a subaltern in the Second Europeans have just been published, graphically descriptive of passages in the fight of Chillianwallah, and the after scenes. We select a few specimens:—

"The word came for the infantry to advance. 'Fix bayonets—load—deploy into line—quick march!' And just then came a roll of musketry that drove us almost mad. 'Quick march!' And into the jungle we plunged in line with a deafening cheer—the roll of musketry increasing every moment. On we went at a rapid double, dashing through the bushes and bounding over every impediment: faster rolled the musketry, crash upon crash the cannon poured forth its deadly contents, and down upon them comes our brigade; and, gaining an open space in the jungle, the whole of the enemy's line burst on our view. 'Charge!' rang the word through our ranks; and the men bounded forward like angry bull-dogs, pouring in a murderous fire. The enemy's bullets whizzed above our heads—the very air seemed teeming with them. Man after man was struck down, and rolled in the dust; but a passing glance was all we could give them. And onward we went, bearing on their line with a steadiness which nothing could resist. They fired a last volley, wavered, and then turned and fled, leaving the ground covered with dead and wounded. Pursuit in a jungle like that was useless, where we could not see twenty yards before us; so we halted, and began to collect our wounded; when all of a sudden a fire was opened upon us in our rear! A large body of the enemy had turned our flank in the jungle, and got between us and the rest of the troops; another party was on our left, and we found ourselves with our light field battery completely surrounded and alone in the field. The word was given, 'Right about face!' and we advanced steadily, loading and firing as we went, and the artillery pouring in grape as steadily as if on parade. If it had not been for that battery, we should have been cut up to a man. The fire was fearful; the atmosphere seemed alive with balls; I can only compare it to a storm of hail; they rang above my head and ears so thick that I felt that if I put out my hand it would be taken off. . . . Our firing was beautiful, every man was as steady as a rock, and fired low and well; while the Sepoys on our right were blazing away into the air, and taking no aim whatever.

"All this time the enemy were dodging about the bushes, banging away at us, and then disappearing. At last General Gilbert rode up, and said to Steel, 'Well, Major; how are you? Do you think you are near enough to charge?' 'By all means,' said Steel. 'Well, then, let's see how you can do it.' 'Men of the Second Europeans, prepare to charge—Charge!' And on we went with a stunning cheer. Poor Nightingale was shot in the head, and fell at my feet. I had just time to order two men to pick him up. The Sikhs fought like devils. They charged down on us, singly, sword in hand, and strove to break through our line; but it was no go; and after a short struggle we swept them before us, and remained masters of the field. . . .

"The enemy lay in heaps around—some dead, some dying, but fierce and untamed even in their dying struggle; numbers of them were bayoneted by our men in the act of rearing themselves up and taking aim at the officers. The battle lasted for three hours, and so maddening was the excitement that it seemed scarcely half an hour. The chief rode down our line afterwards; we gave him three cheers, and proud we were of the praise he gave us.

"At sunset we collected as many of our wounded as we could find, blew up all the ammunition that we had taken, and moved out of the jungle into the open ground, where we piled arms and bivouacked on the ground; and a more wretched night I never passed; it came on a thick drizzling rain, and we were wet to the skin; to sleep was impossible, and we were almost perishing with thirst, but not a drop of water was to be got. In my wanderings about in search of it, I came upon the field hospital; and the sight I saw there I shall remember to my dying day—poor wounded wretches lying on the ground without a thing to cover them; 'Water—water—water!' was their ceaseless cry, and not a drop was there to slake their thirst. All the hospital apparatus was behind, and there was not a single comfort for the poor fellows: even medical assistance was very scarce; many were lying bleeding on the cold earth for hours without having a soul near them. The ghastly sight of suffering, the fearful wounds and hideous gashes that met my eyes, would poison an angel's dreams. . . .

"January 17.—A beautiful day, thank God! the bright sunshine has come out again, and no one who has not experienced the misery of wading through a wet camp with mud up to the ankles can appreciate the blessing dry weather is to a campaigner. Rode out to see the battle-field—a sickening sight it was. The enemy had come down in the night after we left the ground, and murdered every wounded man. Many of them had evidently only been hit in the legs, and they were gashed about in a fearful manner; every man had his throat cut, and many their heads clean cut off. One poor man of ours was obliged to be left behind in the charge, and a lot of the enemy came down and literally hewed him in pieces. Another, who is now lying, doing well, in the hospital, was awfully cut about too. He says that they took him and tossed him up in the air to see if he was alive; but, as he himself quaintly expressed it, he had presence of mind to be dead. The most fearful sight of all was in front of the battery where the Twenty-fourth had been repulsed: 150 of them lay dead on the ground; they were literally in

heaps. The hideous way they had been mangled by these inhuman fiends no tongue can describe; and no mercy will be shown by our infuriated soldiers to any who fall in their way. There were immense heaps of Sikhs lying there too, but they had taken away the greater number."

DIRECT TAXATION.

The Financial Reform Association having awakened attention and directed public inquiry to the extravagance of national expenditure, and the inadequacy for good service of some of the most expensive departments of government, proceed to another division of national economy, one which more vitally affects the national well-being than expenditure—namely, the sources of taxation, and the manner of collecting the taxes.

They propose to substitute direct for indirect taxation.

Indirect taxation is the levy of revenue by taxes on the transit of merchandise; on articles of food; on the raw materials of manufactures other than food; and on the process of manufactures.

Direct taxation is the levy of revenue by a tax on income.

The chief objections to indirect taxation rest on the obstruction which it opposes to industrial enterprise, to the free exercise of productive capital, on the covert which it affords to an unequal impost on different classes of people, and on the premium which it offers to the privileged classes to withdraw their capital and themselves from the offices of production, to live partially or entirely in idleness. One man may have £52,000 a year, being a thousand times more than he who has only £52 a year, or £1 a week; but the first does not eat a thousand times more food, drink a thousand times more tea, or coffee, or taxed liquor, pay a thousand times more for his window-lights, &c., nor in any shape contribute a thousand times more to the revenue than the second.

The chief objection to direct taxation rests on its alleged impracticability. It has, however, been partially in operation at all times, and is so now. The impost called the income and property tax, the stamps, and the assessed taxes, the poor rates, county rates, and almost all local rates, are direct taxes. But the true objection to a complete system of direct taxation is its simplicity, and the inconvenience of opening the inequality of the national burdens to every eye and understanding. Recent events in the military colony of Ceylon afford an apt illustration of this inconvenience.

Of several new taxes imposed on the inhabitants of Ceylon in 1848, one was called a "labour-tax." Its amount was 3s. per head, or the personal labour of six days from each male adult. The wages of the common native labourer being at the rate of 3s. per week, the tax was exactly the income of six days. The untutored peasant of Ceylon saw its inequality at once, just as the untutored peasant of the English hamlet, and all his countrymen, would see the inequality of their burdens, if levied in shape of the income of a certain number of days. The annual salary of the governor of Ceylon was £7,000, or £134 12s. 3½d. a week. An equal impost of one week's income from each person would have required him to pay that sum, instead of 3s. There was the same disproportion in all the intermediate incomes of merchants, planters, military, clergy, and persons above the rank of labourers. Had the impost been levied on some necessary of life, like the 800 per cent. on salt, the Ceylonese would not have seen its inequality, and would have submitted to the unequal burden because they did not see it.

They saw it, and rebelled. And this is another argument urged against direct taxation. But this objection is unfounded on fact; if there should be threats of rebellion in Britain because of taxation, direct and equitable, they will not proceed from the industrious multitude. The rebels, if any, will be heard of in higher quarters. But at most they will only be heard of; they will never be seen. Direct taxation is politically safe, because it must be equitable.

To the objectors to this principle the association reply by inviting them to an analysis of the system now in practice. As for the present they prefer to go into that analysis, and so inform and prepare the public mind to understand the necessity, the economic value of direct taxation as compared with the indirect system which now weighs so unequally on productive industry, and eats the national vitality into the very core.

They first draw attention to the smuggling, fraud, treachery, perjury, lost capital, and lost revenue in the tobacco trade.

LANCASHIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION.—A public meeting was held on Thursday, in the Town-hall, Manchester, in compliance with a requisition to the Mayor, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament to grant a system of secular education, to be supported by local rates, and under the control of the local authorities. The resolution in favour of the petition having been moved by T. Bazley, Esq., and seconded by Absalom Watkin, Esq., the Rev. Canon Stowell moved an amendment for a petition in favour of the present system pursued by Government. The amendment was seconded by the Rev. G. Osmonde, and after a debate of several hours, was carried by a small majority.

MR. JERMY'S WILL.—The will of the late unfortunate Mr. Jermy, sen., of Norwich, was deposited in Doctors' Commons on Thursday, and the property was sworn under £9,000.

COURT, OFFICIAL, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

THE QUEEN held her first drawing-room of this season on Thursday, at St. James's Palace; previously receiving in the throne-room the annual deputation from Christ's Hospital, and inspecting the charts of the scholars. Her Majesty wore a magnificent train of blue and white brocaded silk and white satin, trimmed with blue and white rosettes of riband and tulle, all of Spitalfields manufacture; with a head-dress of diamonds and feathers. The Duchess of Cambridge was present at the drawing-room.

THE QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS left England on Saturday.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Mr. Ward, M.P. for Sheffield, and Secretary to the Admiralty, is about to receive the appointment of Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands; and Mr. Tufnell, M.P. for Devonport, one of the Secretaries to the Treasury, is to succeed Mr. Ward at the Admiralty. Mr. Ward will not, however, enter upon his new appointment, until after the Navy Estimates have been passed. The salary attached to that office is in future to be £4,000 instead of £5,000 per annum. It will be recollected that this is the same appointment which was recently offered to, and declined by, Mr. Charles Villiers. Mr. Roebuck is spoken of as Mr. Ward's successor in the representation of Sheffield.

NEW PRISON BOARD OF SUPERINTENDENCE.—Lieut.-Colonel Jebb, R.E., Surveyor of Prisons; Captain D. O'Brien, inspector of Prisons; and Mr. Voules, Superintendent of the Hulks; are nominated to form a new board of superintendence over the government prisons and the hulks, but without entailing any additional expense, or requiring any further powers from the legislature, beyond those already in existence.—*Observer*.

SIR GEORGE GREY, BART., has been appointed by the Queen a Grand Cross of the Civil Order of the Bath; and Lieut.-Colonel W. Miller, late one of the deputy Inspectors-General of the Constabulary in Ireland, has been appointed a Companion of the Civil Order.

THE PEERS' POOR-LAW COMMITTEE.—REJECTION OF THE RATE-IN-AID SCHEME.—The select committee of the House of Lords, which was appointed to inquire into the operation of the Irish poor-law, and the expediency of making any amendment in its enactments, have just agreed to their third report. On Friday afternoon the committee met to consider their report on the rate-in-aid scheme, the Earl of St. Germans in the chair. After considerable discussion, a series of resolutions, prepared by Lord Montague, was adopted by a majority of thirteen to seven, and agreed upon as their report. Of these the most important is as follows:—

"On a review of the evidence hitherto taken, and more especially of that which has been given by public officers experienced in the administration of the poor, and unbiassed by local ties and interests, it is the opinion of this committee that the proposition for relieving the present distress of large districts in Ireland by the imposition of rates in aid, is partial and inexpedient, as well as inadequate for the relief of the suffering population. No English precedent or authority has been adduced sufficient to justify or recommend this proposition."

THE DEATH OF THE EARL OF GOSFORD places the Lord-Lieutenancy of Armagh, and a colonelcy of Militia, at the disposal of Government. Lord Gosford was a Governor-General of Canada under the late Earl Grey's Government. He is succeeded by his son Archibald Viscount Acheson, now abroad.

THE QUARTER'S REVENUE.—The accounts of the quarter's revenue will be made up to Thursday next, the 5th of April, and published in the usual form on the following day. We are happy to be able to state that the receipts of the customs, the most important criterion of trade, will exhibit an increase of not less than a million on the year, as compared with the accounts published in April, 1848. An increase will also appear in the Excise, which will be more than counterbalanced by the falling-off in the stamps, which we regret to say has not yet been checked, and which is not to be wholly accounted for by the transference of the carriage duties to the excise. There is no doubt that the stamp duties levied upon the transactions of commerce, and on the transfer of property, have very seriously declined. The department of taxes will exhibit no great difference from the estimates of last year. The property-tax also will be much the same, and the Post-office will show no material alteration. In the miscellaneous there will be a trifling increase. Upon the whole, the amount of revenue for the year will more than amply realize the estimate of the Government, and will show the satisfactory balance-sheet of an excess of income above the expenditure of the year.—*Observer*.

THE DEFEAT OF CHARLES ALBERT.—The *Times* states, that with one exception [that of Lord Palmerston], which is too singular to be more nearly alluded to, the Austrian Minister in London has received from the Queen of England in her Court, and from every one who deserves the name of a British statesman, the heartiest congratulations "on the triumph of an old and faithful ally!"

PROPOSED CONGRESS OF EUROPEAN POWERS.—We hear that the Austrian Cabinet has proposed to the English and French Governments to convoke a Congress of the Powers which signed the treaties of 1815, for the discussion of the entire European question.—*Globe*.

THE PROTECTIONISTS AND THEIR LEADER.—It is now generally understood that Lord Stanley has at length—I believe, most reluctantly—given way to the importunities of his party, and the necessities of his position, and that he is prepared to face the responsi-

bilities naturally consequent on a successful opposition. So far, therefore, as his lordship is concerned, the fate of the Navigation Bill, in the Upper House, will involve the fate of the Russell Administration. What course Ministers are likely to take, in the not improbable event of a defeat in the Lords, is a point on which I am not aware that any final decision is yet formed. The general impression, within the last few days, has been, that Lord John Russell will not regard the rejection of this bill by the Upper House as a conclusive reason for relinquishing the reins of Government.—*London Correspondent of the "Scotsman."*

EXTRAORDINARY ELOPEMENT.—Plymouth, March 27.—The ship "Madawaska," of Liverpool, G. M'Kennel, master, a private ship bound for Sydney, arrived here on Friday last, having embarked many of her passengers at London. On Sunday morning, while heaving her anchors, with a fair wind, and her sails set, a small shore boat reached her, in which were two men and one woman. One of the men had come from London in her, and had taken and paid the passage-money for the other man and woman, but so near were they being left behind that they only reached as the anchor broke ground, and proceeded immediately to sea. On Monday morning, between six and seven o'clock, two respectable men arrived here by the early train, one of whom represented himself as the husband of the woman, with his friend, in pursuit of his wife, and the property of which he had been robbed, amounting to between £1,500 and £1,800. The wife, it seems, had eloped with the clerk, a young man who had been in the husband's employ for four or five years, and of whom the husband had taken leave at Gravesend, having made him a small present in money, and many things necessary for his voyage. The deception on the part of both was carried on with the greatest secrecy, the wife, it seems, having dined with her husband and four children on the Saturday; but she, on the same evening, went out, and never returned. From information and inquiries, the lady's drawers were searched, when it was found that all her clothes were taken. The distracted husband and his friend immediately left by the mail-train for this place, where they arrived, to have their suspicions confirmed. The principals in this unhappy affair are of the Jewish persuasion. The distressed husband returned by the first train to London, to consult his professional and other friends on the best means of recovering his property, if not his wife, to whom he had been married 19 years.

A BRUTAL MURDER was committed at Liverpool on Wednesday. Moans heard in a house in Leveson-street led to the bursting of the door by a policeman. He discovered two women and a child lifeless on the bloody floor of one room, and another child quite dead in a dark cellar. A poker and a broken pair of tongs, covered with blood, lay near the three bodies. The bodies were those of Mrs. Henrichson, the wife of a master mariner, her two children, and servant. Mrs. Henrichson, who remained in a state of insensibility from the time she was attacked, died on Sunday night; her second child has died. The servant has recovered enough to state some facts. On Wednesday a stranger, who gave the name of Wilson, and stated he was a carpenter, took lodgings of Mrs. Henrichson. While she was gone to market, he struck her eldest child; the servant interfered; on which the man caught up the poker in great excitement, and knocked her down. He attacked the child, beat its skull in, and beat the servant again till she fell insensible. It is supposed that he then pursued the younger child and killed it; and afterwards awaited Mrs. Henrichson's return from market, and attempted to kill her too, that all evidence against him should be destroyed. A man has been since arrested in Liverpool, and has been identified by the servant as the murderer, who recognised him amongst several other persons. On Saturday further evidence was forthcoming, that of a pawnbroker, who bought of him a watch belonging to Mr. Henrichson, and of a hairdresser at whose shop the prisoner called on the evening in question to be shaved. The witness says:—

My boy shaved him, but he had no beard, and did not want shaving. After he was shaved he said, "Can I have a wash?" I said, "Yes." He pulled off his coat, and hung it on the wall. He then pulled up his shirt sleeves. I asked him what blood that was on his shirt? He said he had cut his wrist with a nail at the railway works in Great Howard-street.

The evidence of the whole of the witnesses was then read over. As the details proceeded a shudder of horror broke occasionally from the crowd at the back of the court. This appeared to annoy the prisoner very much, and, turning round, he said very snappishly, "Silence: I cannot pay attention if you do not hold your tongues." After the whole of the depositions had been read over, Mr. Rushton cautioned the prisoner in the usual manner, and asked him if he had anything to say?

Prisoner: I have not. I have witnesses to prove where I was; but I will take them before the judge. I will not take them at the present time. After a few minutes, he said, "If you will accept the witnesses now, they are in court."

He called for William Collapay; but no answer being given,

Mr. RUSHTON said: If you desire it I will send for him.

Prisoner: I do not wish to have him called at present. What the prisoner said having been written down the sheet was handed to him, but he refused to sign. He made his mark. The coroner's inquest on the bodies of Mrs. Henrichson and her two children closed at 8 o'clock yesterday evening. The jury, without hesitation, returned a verdict of "wilful murder" against the prisoner, John Gleeson Wilson.

LITERATURE.

A Glance at Revolutionized Italy: a Visit to Messina, Naples, &c. &c., in the Summer of 1848. By C. MACFARLANE. In two volumes. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

THOSE who wish to form an adequate notion of foreign revolution will find ample materials in these volumes, put together in a style which will always amuse, and often instruct them. It would be easy to fill our columns with extracts, for which it is probable many readers might thank us; so entertaining are the contents. The work before us opens with Constantinople, and the author gives a lively description of the political feelings of the Italian residents in that city, and of their sympathy with the revolutionary movement going on at home. He then journeys to Smyrna, Malta, Messina, and Naples. At Messina he takes the familiarity of British officers with the National Guard as a high indignity; and is still more loud in his complaints that the British war-steamer fired a salute in honour of the Sicilian Parliament before a vessel of the *Grande République* itself. From this it will be seen that the author is no revolutionist—this, indeed, he does not hesitate on all occasions to avow. Nevertheless he appears to be a man of generous temper and natural liberality; and, though often disapproving, and sometimes unnecessarily protesting, the reader finds him good company and a capital tale-teller. But we will let the author speak for himself:—

"In that corner of the bay which lies between Mount St. Angelo and Mount Vesuvius, we saw the English fleet at anchor—seven sail of the line, frigates, steamships, and smaller craft. It was a proud sight, and the meteor-flag floated proudly on the summer breeze; but that flag, in my apprehension, had recently been displayed in a mean, ignoble manner, and that gallant fleet had been made to play the part of a bully. Before landing at Naples I could discover many tokens of increase and improvement. On setting foot on shore some noticeable improvement—some new building, or some old building restored and beautified, some widened pathway, something to promote the comfort and convenience of the people—met me at nearly every step I took. The quays which run along the port had been converted from their narrow, dirty, foul-smelling state, into a condition of admirable neatness and cleanliness. There was a fine long range of iron railing where none existed before, and the issue towards the mole and the broad street of Castello Nuovo had been much enlarged and admirably paved. I compared what I saw with what I had seen and known so many years before, and a hundred things struck me which scarcely excited the notice of those who had been constantly living in Naples, and had seen the improvements operated bit by bit. And to my eyes the condition of the people seemed as much improved as the town itself—albeit they were not half so talkative, facetious, and merry as of oldtime. All that we met, even in the lower part of the town, were clean-shirted and well-dressed: even the priests (who were far more numerous than I should have desired) had glossy beavers and broad brims; of the shoeless, stockingless, jacketless, shirtless vagabonds of other days, I scarcely saw a specimen. There were no poor in tatters—without having quite so much need of being well clad, the poor of Naples seemed to be as well dressed as our poor or our labourers of England. There was far more order, silence, and regularity than ever I had seen before, or had hoped to see in this most noisy and bustling of cities. In fact, Naples has lost nearly every original or striking point which formerly distinguished it, and it now looks very much like any other European city—civilized, regularized, and somewhat dull. I could have dispensed with some of this order and mechanical civilization, if I could have had some of the old life and *brio* and fun. But we must take what we can get. Soberer and more prosaic, and far less amusing it is; but it is now nonsensical to talk and write, as people and journalists do, of Naples as being the city of lazaroni, and the same sort of place it was when Du Paty, Kotzebue, and De Staël wrote about it. Properly speaking, there are no lazaroni now. Another thing which struck me at the first glance, and which recurred to me every day that I spent there, was, that there were no *corriboli*, or hack-gigs. The lazaroni were fast disappearing, and had in a manner ceased to exist before 1827; but of the dashing, hard-going *corriboli*, and their noisy, screaming drivers, I had left an abundant supply in the macaroni-eating capital. They were as numerous and as rapid as when Alfieri sung of them.

"But now they are all vanished! Not one of them is permitted to ply. Their place is supplied by four-wheeled vehicles, drawn by one horse, and having a leather head, which may be drawn over the hinder seat as a shelter from sun or rain. The Government and the police interfered and put down the *corriboli*, as being perilous to life or limb. No doubt the four-wheelers are a good deal safer; but they are comparatively dull and unexciting machines, and they bear a name which is dissonant to the ear, since the abuse made of it in these days of revolutionism and democratic republicanism. They call them citizens—*cittadini*. In losing her rapid, smart painted *corriboli*, Naples has lost one of her most characteristic features. Nor, with good luck, was that curriculum so very perilous."

In the author's eyes, Lord Palmerston is evidently no favourite.

"Another gentleman, who was more caustic and concise, said that Lord Palmerston was an exception to the general rule of humanity; that, instead of being calmed and cooled by age, he became more impetuous and hotter as he grew old; that he was a *brouillon*; that he had been an *imbroglione* in Spain, an *imbroglione* in Portugal, an *imbroglione* in Denmark, an *imbroglione* in Sicily and at Naples; and that the end of all his *imbrogli* would be the inextricable confusion of all Europe, and the disgrace, if not the ruin, of his own country. The language is not quite polite, nor such as I would apply to his lordship; but there may be some use in telling the reader in what

light our foreign policy is regarded abroad by well-educated and experienced men, who live in countries to which that policy is applied; and the noble Viscount who presides in Downing-street might possibly be benefited or warned if he now and then read reports such as he is not likely to find in the despatches of his envoys and plenipotentiaries, *chargés d'affaires* and consuls; 'a classis of men,' whom gratitude or self-interest predisposes to chime in with the minister who has given them their places, and who can give them promotion. I have seen some instances of it myself, and I have been told that many of these functionaries, instead of writing the plain, unbiassed truth, have rather studied to write that which should be agreeable to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and coincide with his views. Then there is the disinterested, but often very strong bias of political party. A Whig of the new school sees the same object in another aspect than that in which it is seen by a Whig of the old school, to say nothing of the Tories who were, and the Conservatives who are. The progeny of the Reform Bill, which, whatever it may have been to the country, has been a bountiful suckling-mother to many of our countrymen, must have a larger sympathy with revolutionists than can be felt by Englishmen of another school and of different nurture. What we consider as plotting, they may regard as agitation within the law; and what we hold to be rebellion, they may applaud as a legitimate display of moral force. Then these men, who can scarcely mask their hostility to royalty and aristocracy at home, are their declared enemies abroad. Whenever a quarrel occurs between kings and subjects, or between the higher and the lower, their instincts and habits lead them to take part with the subjects and the lower. I know how difficult the reform is; I know (what reformers and revolutionists will not feel) that men will be men, and subject to worldly influences; I know that so long as we have a constitution, we must have parties, and that parties must provide for party men, or their relatives or *protégés*; but still—and with infinite respect for some excellent men who belong to it—I repeat that no corps in our service so much needs reform as our *corps diplomatique*."

The following account of Pompeii will be read with interest:—

"Returning towards Naples we left the railroad at the town of Torre dell' Annunziata. There we took a country *café*, which waited us in a few minutes to Pompeii. We entered the 'City of the Dead,' as it ought always to be entered, by the *street of tombs*. That street was awfully still; there was nothing moving in it except some little lizards, which now and then glided across the stone pavement, glancing their green backs and golden sides in the sun. We advanced some way up the street before any human being appeared. At last, as we were standing at the foot of the tall white marble tomb of an old Roman, on the sides of which are sculptured, in relief, a ship in rapid motion, torches reversed, with their flames dying away in smoke, and other types and symbols of the brevity of human life, a guide came running round to us. At first sight the old fellow was rejoiced at seeing so rare a sight as two visitors, but he soon relapsed into the doleful, and began telling us how badly he and his companions had fared ever since the revolutionists and barricaders. I remarked, that this was not the season for many tourists. 'True,' said he, 'but this year we have had no season at all. There were no more travellers in the cool springtime of the year than there are now. Very true; this is the month of August; but in the good peaceable times there was never any month, hot or cold, that did not bring us a good number of visitors. You Englishmen do not fear the *Sol Caniculaire* (the dog-days). Except your officers and sailors, nobody ever comes near us now. If this lasts, we must all starve!' The arrival of the English fleet had been a God-send to the ciceroni of Pompeii, as well as the people of Castellamare. Our guide confessed that he had picked up a few half-dollars by it.

"Upon inquiring how many labourers were employed in excavating the very large portion of the city that yet lies buried under the volcanic mud, ashes, and lapilli, which were disgorged by Vesuvius, and the deep vegetable soil which had accumulated over all during sixteen hundred years, I was informed that, owing to the political troubles and the consequent draining of the Government exchequer, the interesting work was at a stand still. 'The gangs were diminished by degrees, and the men discharged,' said our guide, 'as the King became poorer, or wanted more and more money for the war in Calabria, and the war in Sicily, and for putting down these *revoltosi*, who have ruined us all! Last week there were only five men left, and as they could do next to nothing they were told they might go and seek work elsewhere. But where is work to be found now? God knows what will become of all the poor men who had regular employment here, and of their families. *Stiamo male, Signore*. We are badly off, Sir.' I pitied the labourers thrown out of employment, and regretted the suspension of a work which interests every lover of arts and antiquities, and which ought to be carried on at the expense of the whole civilized world. But I could only pity and regret.

"Of late the labours had been directed on a good consistent plan. They were clearing the grand arm or trunk of the quadrivium which conducts from the great street, called the street of Fortune, to the theatres, and the road which anciently led to the sea-port of Pompeii, passing behind the Basilica. A great deal more might have been done in twenty-one years; but much had been done since I was last here, and some of the most interesting edifices, sculptures, mosaics, and other works of art ever discovered in Pompeii have been dug up during that interval. The grand mosaic of the battle of Alexander and Darius—by far the grandest work of the kind in ancient art—was disinterred in 1829. Another *chef-d'œuvre*, inferior only to the Portland vase, which has sustained so sad a fate in the British Museum, was discovered in 1837. It is a superb blue vase, covered with enamel and white *bassi-relievi*, representing groups of Cupids engaged in the pleasant toils of the vintage. The little figures are all life, and (unless some madman break the vessel) will live and laugh there for ever, like Keats's nymphs on the ancient Greek vase of marble. In 1841 and 1842 many curious houses were laid open to the light of the sun, and many domestic utensils, marbles, and frescoes, were recovered. And, indeed, there has been scarcely one year which has not made some important additions to the unrivalled collection in the Bourbon museum at Naples, where the domestic manners of the ancients may be studied in the objects they

themselves left behind. On the spot there already exist materials for a very copious edition to the beautiful work on Pompeii produced by the late Sir William Gell and Mr. Gandy.

"I remarked that a good many of the paintings on stucco, which were in their proper place on the walls of the rooms of dwelling-houses, or of other edifices in which they had been originally painted, were cut and removed. The guide told us that we should find them in the Museo Borbonico, at Naples, where, assuredly, they will not be so interesting as when here *in situ*. But there was good reason for this removal. At every step some annoying evidence met our eye, that stuccos and even marbles and bronzes were not safe at Pompeii—an infinitude of vulgar visitors, of nearly all the nations of the earth, had been scratching their ugly anti-classical names on the beautiful stucco of the houses and temples, deeply engraving them on marble columns, capitals, and architraves, sinking them into almost every accessible object or substance. One Goth, who must have undergone great toil and some peril, had ascended into a niche, had climbed up to the shoulder of a marble statue much larger than life—the well-preserved effigies of a heroine or a goddess, and had deeply cut the name of Mrs. — on the very forehead of the figure. I am sorry to say that the name is an English one, and that Englishmen and Americans have committed more of those abominations, have done more to deface that which time has left us, and which a volcanic eruption has almost miraculously preserved for us, than the people of any other country. It is excessively annoying to find at every turn or corner, in every house and temple, in every chamber and bath, in the openest as well as in the most retired and secret places, the names of "Smith" and "Brown," "White" and "Green," "Johnson" and "Thompson," staring you in the face. I have heard of a gentleman who was driven half-crazy by the prevalence of this abominable practice in all our show-places in England, and who endeavoured to correct it by writing little additions to the inscriptions which he found in this way. Thus, under "John Brown was here on the 10th of August," &c., he would scrawl, "having just returned from transportation;" under "Robert Jones," he would write, "his father was hanged at Newgate;" and so on, through a great variety of illustration. I am not sure that this cure, if generally adopted, might not correct the crying evil; but I should not like to see it introduced among the stuccos and marbles of this ancient city, as it would accelerate the defacement and the destruction which already go on at too rapid a pace.

"Then, these irreverent destructionists, these robbers of the dead, and despoilers of a city of the dead, can never go away empty-handed. They must take something with them to show that they have been at Pompeii. They cut away great pieces of stucco, they break off fragments of marble, they dislodge and pocket bits of tile and brick, they wrench from their sockets bronze hinges, and they play mischief to the very devil among the ancient pottery and all other relics. The ciceroni, or guides, and the custodi, or keepers, have strict orders to prevent these proceedings, but their backs are often turned, they cannot be always watching every member of a large party, and I fear very few of them have virtue enough to resist the temptation of two shillings and a penny sterling, or a piece of six cartini. We afterwards saw an English skipper, who boasted that he had broken many things, and had carried off bronze enough to make a soup-kettle for his ship's company. The man was brass to tell it. But he evidently considered that common usage excused his operations, and that he had done nothing wrong."

Our Great State-Church Parliament—Our Great Naval and Military Parliaments. London: 335, Strand.

These cheap pamphlets consist, with some additions, of a series of articles which lately appeared in our able contemporary, the *Standard of Freedom*. We are glad they have been thus republished in an available form, as we know of few publications of a like price and size, so adapted to carry conviction to the hearts of lukewarm reformers. To those of our readers who are not already acquainted with their contents, we may mention that their object is to furnish a minute analysis of the two Houses of Parliament, showing how each member of either legislative body is directly or indirectly connected with the army, navy, or church. For instance, it is shown in detail that in the Lords there is a standing majority of 200, and in the Commons, 356, or a majority of 53, thus interested in maintaining a war establishment, and official extravagance. To the second of these pamphlets we shall probably again refer when we have more space at our command. Meanwhile, it is sufficient to say that we should rejoice to see both of them in the hands of every Church and State reformer. A more able, complete, and painstaking analysis of our present corrupt system of legislation has never been published. We trust it will act like a shower of grape upon the monopolies and pretensions of the aristocracy.

Remains of the Rev. Philip Henry. By Sir JOHN BICKERTON WILLIAMS. Religious Tract Society.

MR. PHILIP HENRY, with singular modesty, published nothing—doubtless, many of his thoughts are incorporated in the valuable Commentary of his more celebrated son. Since the publication of that work, many scattered pieces have at intervals appeared before the public—these are additional remains. Many of them evidently skeletons of sermons.

The Sound Believer: a Treatise on Evangelical Conversion. By THOMAS SHEPARD. Aberdeen: G. and R. King.

THIS appears to be a reprint of a volume of old divinity, in which there is much of what our ancestors were accustomed to designate "half-work."

Memoir of the Rev. Richard Adams, of the New Forest. By THOMAS MANN. London: Ward and Co.

THE subject of this biography appears to have been a man of extraordinary piety, and his dying scene was very striking, though there was some euthanasia about it. The volume is one of great interest.

Notes on the Prophecies of the Apocalypse. By HENRY FORSTER BURDER, D.D. London: Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.

THIS work certainly contains no theological novelties, and may perhaps be regarded by many as an inadequate solution of the difficulties of which it treats. No theologian, we think, will be perfectly satisfied with the interpretation of chapters five and six of the Revelation. To many, however, the volume may be valuable as a digest of preceding opinions on the same subject.

The Garland of Gratitude. By JOSEPH DARE. London: John Chapman, 142, Strand.

THIS is a volume of sonnets and miscellaneous pieces originally published in the *Leicester Chronicle*, *Mercury*, and other periodicals. The author states his aim to be the promotion of the mental and moral elevation of his brethren. We can bear testimony to the consistent carrying out of this intention.

The Reviewer's thanks are also due for the following:

—*Geographical Class-book of Palestine, for the use of Sabbath and Day-schools.* By WILLIAM LUNDY. London: A. Hall and Co., Paternoster-row.

—*The Irish Scholar; or, Popery and Protestant Christianity: a Narrative.* By the Rev. T. W. AVELING. Third edition. London: Ward and Co., Paternoster-row.

—*Annals of the Poor.* By the Rev. LEIGH RICHMOND, M.A. London: Ward and Co., 27, Paternoster-row.

—*A very cheap and portable edition of a well-known work.*—*The Scottish Temperance League Register.* Glasgow League Office.

—*Speech of Daniel Whittle Harvey, Esq., when M.P. for Colchester, on the Crown Lands.*—*The Family Friend.* A Magazine of Domestic Economy, Entertainment, Instruction, and Practical Science. London: Houlston and Stoneman, 65, Paternoster-row.

—*We strongly approve, and earnestly recommend this publication.*—*The Bible and the Poor.* By CALEB MORRIS. London: Snow, Paternoster-row.

—*Would that all our readers, high and low, might carefully study the extracts from Scripture contained in this little pamphlet.*—*The Mission of Jesus attested from Heaven.* A Sermon. By ROBERT BREWER. London: Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row. Leeds: J. Heaton.

—*The Destruction of the Olympic Theatre.*—The Olympic Theatre in Wych-street has been burnt to the ground. On Thursday afternoon, at about five o'clock, while Mr. Sterling was on the stage, superintending arrangements for producing some benefit pieces, the stage-curtain floated over a gas-burner, from which it was usually fended by a tin guard, then accidentally displaced. The curtain was of very old velvet, lined with cotton to keep it together; the cotton blazed up, and burned with such rapidity that the carpenters were unable to cut the lines which suspended the curtain and drew it back, before the upper part of the theatre took fire. The light furniture of the upper boxes and the machinery at the top of the stage soon conducted it over the whole interior of the house. In less than half an hour the flames forced their way through the roof, and poured out through all lateral openings in such a volume as to set on fire several adjacent houses. Twelve engines were very soon on the spot, and an enormous quantity of water was promptly thrown on the conflagration; but without in the least subduing it. By eight o'clock the galleries and roof had dropped in, and the front walls had fallen forward into Wych-street; and by nine o'clock the building was a mass of ruins. Nearly a dozen houses in Craven-buildings, and some of the houses in Newcastle-street, have been ruined or seriously damaged. The Olympic Theatre was built by "Old Philip Astley," on the destruction by fire of the Amphitheatre in Lambeth. Astley was a favourite of George the Third, and received through his favour the gift of the captured French ship "Ville de Paris," to break up and use in the construction of the Olympic; and the theatre was built almost entirely of timber. Mr. Davidson, the lessee, was wholly uninsured: it is stated that he was about to insure next day, before giving up possession to young Mr. Farren and Mrs. Nesbitt, who had just concluded an agreement with him to sublease the theatre for the summer season. The building was the property of Mr. Cavell, a representative by marriage of Old Astley, and was insured in the County Fire-office. The surrounding houses were part of the Craven estate, and were also insured.

—*A CHILD named Heard was born at Wigston, a few days ago, and has now living and in good health two grandfathers, two grandmothers, three great-grandfathers, three great-grandmothers, and one great-great-grandfather, who can truly say, "Arise, daughter, and go to your daughter, for your daughter's daughter has got a daughter."*—*Leicestershire Mercury.*

—*The Ulster Gazette mentions that Daniel O'Connell never used the misbegotten word—talented.*

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

FIRST ATTEMPTS OF THE PARTY AT GOLD FINDING.—I can hardly describe the effect this sight produced upon our party. It seemed as if the fabled treasure of the "Arabian Nights" had been suddenly realized before us. We all shook hands, and swore to preserve good faith with each other, and to work hard for the common good. The gold-finders told us that some of them frequently got as much as fifty dollars a day. As we rode from camp to camp, and saw the hoards of gold—some of it in flakes, but the greater part in a coarse sort of dust—which these people had amassed during the last few weeks, we felt in a perfect flutter of excitement at the sight of the wealth around us. One man showed us 400 ounces of pure gold-dust which he had washed from dirt in a tin pan, and which he valued at fourteen dollars an ounce. As may be imagined, the whole scene was one well calculated to take a strong hold upon the imagination. The eminences, rising gradually from the river's banks, were dotted with white canvass tents, mingled with the more sombre-looking huts, constructed with once green, but now withered branches. A few hundred yards from the river lay a large heap of planks and framings, which I was told were intended for constructing a store; the owner of which, a sallow Yankee, with a large pluffy cigarette in his mouth, was labouring away in his shirt sleeves. Bewildered and excited by the novelty of the scene, we were in haste to pitch our camp, and soon fixed upon a location. This was by the side of a dried-up watercourse, through which, in the wet season, a small rivulet joined the larger stream; we did not, however, immediately set to work to make the necessary arrangements for the night. Our fingers were positively itching for the gold, and in less than half an hour after our arrival, the pack-horse which carried the shovels, scoops, and pans, had been released of his burden, and all our party were as busily employed as the rest. As for myself, armed with a large scoop or trowel, and a shallow tin pail, I leaped into the bed of the rivulet, at a spot where I perceived no trace of the gravel and earth having been artificially disturbed. Near me was a small clear pool, which served for washing the gold. Some of our party set to work within a short distance of me, while others tried their fortune along the banks of the Americanos, digging up the shingle which lay at the very brink of the stream. I shall not soon forget the feeling with which I first plunged my scoop into the soil beneath me. Half filling my tin pail with the earth and shingle, I carried it to the pool, and placing it beneath the surface of the water, I began to stir it with my hand, as I had observed the other diggers do. Of course I was not very expert at first and I dare say I flung out a good deal of valuable metal. However, I soon perceived that the earth was crumbling away, and was being carried by the agitation of the water pool, which speedily became turbid, while the sandy sediment of which I had heard remained at the bottom of the pail. Carefully draining the water away, I deposited the sand in one of the small close-woven Indian baskets we had brought with us, with the intention of drying it at the camp fire, there not being sufficient time before nightfall to allow the moisture gradually to absorb by the evaporation of the atmosphere. After working about half an hour, I retraced my steps with my basket to the spot where we had tethered the horses, and found the animals still standing there with their burdens on their backs. Mr. Malcolm was already there; he had with him about an equal quantity of the precious black sand; it remained, however, to be seen what proportion of gold our heaps contained. In a short time Bradley and Don Luis joined us, both of them in tip-top spirits. "I guess this is the way we do the trick down in these clearings," said the former, shaking a bag of golden sand. As for Jose, Don Luis's Indian servant, he was devout in his expressions of thanksgiving to the Virgin Mary and the Great Spirit, whom he would insist on classifying together, in a most remarkable and not quite orthodox manner. We now set to work to get up our tent. Malcolm, in the meantime, prepared coffee and very under-baked cakes, made of the flour we had brought with us. His cooking operations were greatly impeded by our eagerness to dry the sand we had scraped up—a feat in the achievement of which Bradley was clumsy enough to burn a hole in our best saucepan. However, we managed to get the moisture absorbed; and, shutting our eyes, we commenced blowing away the sand with our mouths, and shortly found ourselves the possessors of a few pinches of gold. This was encouraging for a beginning. We drank our coffee in high spirits, and then, having picketed our horses, made ourselves as snug as our accommodation would allow; and, being tired out, not only with the journey and the work, but with excitement and anxiety, slept soundly till morning.—*Four Months among the Gold Finders.*

ARAB WOMEN AND ARAB WORKMEN.—When I first employed the Arabs, the women were sorely ill treated, and subjected to great hardships. I endeavoured to introduce some reform into their domestic arrangements, and punished severely those who inflicted corporal punishment on their wives. In a short time the number of domestic quarrels was greatly reduced, and the women, who were at first afraid to complain of their husbands, now boldly appealed to me for protection. They had, however, some misgivings as to the future, which were thus expressed by a deputation:—"O Bey! we are your sacrifice. May God reward you. Have we not eaten wheat bread, and even meat and butter, since we have been under your shadow? Is there one of

us that has not now a coloured handkerchief for her head, bracelets and ankle-rings, and a striped cloak? But what shall we do when you leave us, which God forbid you ever should do? Our husbands will then have their turn, and there will be nobody to help us." These poor creatures, like all Arab women, were exposed to constant hardships. They were obliged to look after the children, to make the bread, to fetch water, and to cut wood, which they brought home from afar on their heads. Moreover, they were entrusted with all the domestic duties, wove their wool and goat's hair into clothes, carpets, and tent canvass; and were left to strike and raise the tents, and to load and unload the beasts of burden when they change their encamping ground. If their husbands possessed sheep or cows, they had to drive them to the pastures, and to milk them at night. When moving, they carried their children at their backs during the march, and were even troubled with this burden when employed in their domestic occupations, if the children were too young to be left alone. The men sat indolently by, smoking their pipes, or listening to a trifling story from some stray Arab of the desert, who was always there to collect a group around him. At first, the women, whose husbands encamped on the mound, brought water from the river; but I released them from this labour by employing horses and donkeys in the work. The weight of a large sheep or goat's skin filled with water is not inconsiderable. This is hung on the back by cords strapped over the shoulders, and upon it, in addition, was frequently seated the child, who could not be left in the tent, or was unable to follow its mother on foot. The bundles of firewood, brought from a considerable distance, were enormous, completely concealing the head and shoulders of those who tottered beneath them. And yet the women worked cheerfully, and it was seldom that their husbands had to complain of their idleness. Some were more active than others. There was a young girl named Hadla, who particularly distinguished herself, and was consequently sought in marriage by all the men. Her features were handsome, and her form erect, and exceedingly graceful. She carried the largest burdens, was never unemployed, and was accustomed, when she had finished the work imposed upon her by her mother, to assist her neighbours in completing theirs.—*Layard's Nineveh.*

JUSTICE OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—Smoking in the streets is strictly prohibited. The Emperor, while walking one day, met a Frenchman smoking a cigar. He approached, and asked him if he was not aware that it was contrary to the law to smoke in the street. The Gaul, not knowing by whom he was addressed, replied that he had been in the habit of smoking in the streets of Paris, and he did not know why he should not do so in the streets of any other city. The Emperor, who detests a Frenchman, left him, and proceeding to the *boutika* or station of a policeman near at hand, gave directions to the *boutouschnik* as to the disposition of the smoker. The latter was immediately placed by force in a *kibitka*, which is a small waggon without springs of any kind, and bounced over a thousand miles of bad road to the Turkish frontier, where he was dismissed with permission to follow the Parisian fashions.—*The Czar, his Court and People.*

ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.—The first anniversary dinner in aid of the funds of this recently-established charity took place on Wednesday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. The Duke of Cambridge had signified his intention to act as president on the occasion, but indisposition prevented his attendance, and the chair was filled by Dr. Lushington, who was supported by Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., Mr. J. Smith, M.P., Mr. J. Heywood, M.P., Dr. B. G. de Musey, Rev. Dr. Holloway, and upwards of eighty patrons of the institution. The usual leading toasts, including the health of the Duke of Cambridge, who was announced as a subscriber of 20 guineas, having been proposed and received with all the honours, the chairman gave "Prosperity and long continuance to the Asylum for Idiots." He expressed surprise that the institution was not only a new one, but stood alone in reference to its objects in Great Britain. While the national philanthropy had extended its solicitude to a vast number of the forms of distress and suffering incidental to humanity, it had, heretofore, altogether neglected to provide asylums specially devoted to the care of idiotism—the most touching, because the most helpless and hopeless of all visitations, involving, as it did, a deprivation of thought and reason. He was sincerely rejoiced, however, that the mind of the charitable public had at length awakened to the necessity which existed for such institutions; and that it was thoroughly aroused, the large amount of support which this charity had already received was abundant evidence. There was at present about eighty inmates in the asylum, whose attention, under judicious superintendence, was directed to employments, such as drawing, gardening, music, &c., calculated to awaken their dormant intellectual capabilities; and it must be matter for congratulation to all the supporters of the charity to know that great success had attended the efforts which had been made for the amelioration of the condition of the unhappy objects of the charity. The usual collection in aid of the charity was then made, and a long list of subscriptions was announced by the treasurer.

"Railways," remarks the *Lancet*, "have introduced a perfectly novel kind of practice. Formerly a country practitioner might meet a capital operation or a compound fracture once in his life. Now, if living in a railway district, he may at any time have suddenly to fulfil the duties of an army surgeon."

GLEANINGS.

The musical instruments, model ballot-box, and other traps of the defunct Conciliation-hall, were sold by auction on Tuesday, and realized altogether about £100.

The plan of postage labels has been introduced into the United States; but it has been as yet quite unsuccessful, the number used not amounting to 1 per cent. on the letters transmitted.

Hong is a Chinese name for the large factories at Canton, where each nation has a separate *hong*; hence the appellation of "Hong merchants."

The proposed alterations in the examination statute, at Oxford University, were considered in Convocation, on Wednesday, and for the most part rejected, the Tractarians mustering strongly in opposition to the movement party.

It is said that Lola Montes, some of whose jewellery has been sold at Phillips's rooms, intends to write memoirs and anecdotes of her residence at foreign courts.

THE DOG IN DANGER.—A candidate for a seat in Parliament, entering the house of a washerwoman in Yorkshire, shook hands with all the inmates, not excepting a little Cinderella on the hearth, and nauseated Dame Suds with his fulsome courtesies. Kicking the dog which lay snoring by the fire, "Get away wi' thee," she cried: "he'll be shaking hands wi' thee next!"

About £10,000 has been paid at Liverpool, upon foreign corn and breadstuffs, entered for consumption at the nominal duty of 1s. per quarter.

Excellent moist sugar is now selling in London for 3½d. per pound, and loaf sugar for 5½d. per pound.

Lamartine is, it is said, about to publish monthly a species of political review, which he is to call "The People's Adviser."

An act of the late United States Congress authorizes a coinage of twenty and of one dollar gold pieces.

ENGLAND THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH.—If we divide the globe into two hemispheres, according to the maximum extent of land and water in each, we arrive at the curious result of designating England as the centre of the former (or terrene) half, and an antipodal point near New Zealand as the centre of the aqueous hemisphere. The exact position in England is not far from the Land's End; so that if an observer were there raised to such a height as to discern at once the half of the globe, he would see the greatest possible extent of land; if similarly elevated in New Zealand, the greatest possible surface of water.—*Quarterly Review.*

It is rumoured that the ex-President and Mrs. Polk contemplate a visit to Europe.

PROPOSED MONUMENT TO THE POET COWPER.—It is proposed to erect, by subscription, a monument, with bas-relief and bust, to the memory of the poet Cowper, in Westminster Abbey.

"The Freehold Land Society," says the *Birmingham Mercury*, "in North Warwick at all events, has become a 'great fact,' and, judging from the progress which the movement is making in the adjoining towns, there can be no doubt that ere long every county in England will be able to boast a similar one."

Mr. M. M. Noah contends (in the *Jewish Chronicle*), from the statements of recent explorers, that not only the ruins, but the remains of the temple of Jerusalem are found in the subterranean portion of the mosque El Aska.

The cylinder printing machines in Messrs. Hoyle's print works, Mayfield, Manchester, print a mile of calico in an hour! If fifteen of these machines work uninterruptedly for only ten hours each day, and for six days in the week, they would be able to print cotton dresses in one such week for one hundred and sixty-two thousand ladies! The actual number of miles of calico printed by this eminent firm alone in a single year exceeds ten thousand, more than sufficient to measure the diameter of our planet with!

ALLEGED ANTIDOTE FOR CHOLERA.—There has been discovered on Mount Olympus, in Asia Minor, a plant, of which the botanical name is unknown. The stalk and leaves resemble thyme, the flowers those of lavender. After a number of experiments, it has been found that a decoction of this plant has the power of producing reaction in the stage of collapse in cholera,—to arrest the diarrhoea and sickness,—in fact, to bring about the most satisfactory results. This plant, which is affirmed to be a true specific against cholera, is known by the name of Zarabia.—*Medical Times.*

MR. MACAULAY AND MR. BAPTIST NOEL.—The Lord Rector, Mr. Macaulay, on whom our civic authorities conferred the freedom of the city on Thursday last, is, by descent, connected with this part of Scotland. His father, the late Mr. Zachary Macaulay, was born at Cardross, of which parish the rector's grandfather was minister. Mr. Zachary Macaulay, who was an eminent London merchant, engaged in the African trade, took a deep interest in the cause of emancipation, and was the author of some able and well-written publications on the subject of slavery. A correspondent mentions that the Lord Rector made his first appearance as a public speaker, along with Mr. Baptist Noel, at a meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society. The speeches of the two gentlemen were inserted in the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, whose editor, the late Mr. Pringle, formerly of South Africa, called attention to them, as being the speeches of two promising young men who would eloquently support the anti-slavery cause, when its older friends had retired from the scene. Our correspondent's attention was attracted at the time by the eloquence of both speeches, particularly that of Mr. Macaulay, which exhibited many of the characteristics of his latter productions, so much so, that, some years afterwards, when rumour ascribed to his pen the article on Milton, in the *Edinburgh Review*, our correspondent was satisfied of its correctness, from his recollection of this speech. Our correspondent further remarks a striking coincidence in the career of the two gentlemen who thus made their debut as public speakers on the above occasion. Both of them published in December last, and their respective works (Macaulay's History and Noel's Church and State), have been more extensively read, and been more rapidly sold, than those perhaps of any other living author. The first editions were all disposed of on the day of publication, and successive editions disappeared as soon as they were ready.—*Glasgow Saturday Post.*

POETRY.

PUSEYISM, OR PROTESTANT POPERY.

[The following is a copy of the Poem by the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, referred to in the letter of the Rev. T. Spencer to Mr. Bouverie, M.P., which appeared in our last number.]

Storms are gathering in the sky;
Vengeful thunders hover nigh;
Plague-spots in the Church appear,
Filling every heart with fear,
She must drink the cup of woe,
Shame and sorrow she must know;
She is wandering from her God,
On her brow write Ichabod,
Mystic fingers on the wall
Trace her sin, and bode her fall;
Warning voices through the gloom,
Tell us of her coming doom,
Priestcraft, with a giant stride,
Stalks the land in pomp and pride;
He who should preach only Christ,
Now a semi-papal priest,
Would the Church's lord appear,
Not its lowly minister;
Calling all men, great and small,
Down before the priest to fall.
Priests forgetting, in the pride,
Him who as our ransom died,
Bid us on our works depend,
Not on Christ, the sinner's friend.
None the Bible now must read,
Till the priest has fix'd our creed;
None must rest on Christ alone,
Till the priest his work has done.
Sacraments the priest extols,
For 'tis he each rite controls;
Thought to freedom is allied,
Therefore preaching set aside;
Fonts and altars now must teach;
Priests, should sacrifice, not preach.
Priests, they say, can intercede,
In our hour of guilt and need.
Priests, ambassadors of heaven,
Can pronounce our sins forgiven—
Since, whate'er their want of sense,
They the gifts of grace dispense;
And, ordained by Heaven, possess
Apostolic power to bless.
Priests the monarch's throne outshine,
By a dignity divine.
Mean, compared with these, are kings—
Dynasties but mushroom things;
Priests had won their rightful throne.
Ere the crown of England shone;
They had risen to princely state,
Long ere England's senate sate;
And when empires pass away,
They shall hold their steadfast sway.
Devotees around them wait,
To exalt their lordly state.
See them sit in chancery proud,
High above the vulgar crowd.
See them, when the prayers they say,
From the people turn away,
Muttering hidden words of prayer,
That the vulgar may not share:
Then at altars, rich and high,
Bow and cross, we know not why.
What is wanting? Incense bring:
Morn by morn the matins sing;
Faldstool and sedilia place;
Hang up, on the altar lace;
There the dying figure fix,
Kneel before thy Catholic;
Then dispense the water bread;
Say due masses for the dead;
Chant the dirges slow and sad,
Sacred copes and banners add,
Candlesticks with glittering glass,
Credence table, rich reredos;
Pictures round the table set,
Then the show will be complete.
Woe to thee, my country, woe!
Thou canst bear this Papal show;
Thou canst tamely sit and see
This advancing mummery:
Forms exalted to the skies,
While God's Word dishonoured lies;
Rome is fondled as a child,
Martyrs scorn'd and saints reviled;
Truth is bound with priestly chain,
Charity and candour slain.
Pastors who their country warn,
From their grieving flocks are torn.
From the Church they loved at heart,
Crowds indignantly depart;
While triumphant errors stand
Lords of the bewild'ring land.
Oh for an hour of Luther now!
Oh for a frown of Calvin's brow!
Once they broke the Papal chain—
Who shall break it now again?
Lord, thou seest us weak and cold;
Rise, as in the days of old,
Bare thy own Almighty arm,
Save thy church from every harm;
And may truth the victory win
Over falsehood, fraud, and sin.

BIRTHS.

March 28, at Albert-place, Deal, the wife of Mr. H. W. HAYWARD, of a daughter.

March 31, at Kirkham, Lancashire, the wife of the Rev. ROBERT BERT, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

March 28, by license, at the Independent Chapel, Chatteris, by the father of the bride, Mr. ROBERT HULL, of Newmarket, to MARY ANNE, only daughter of the Rev. J. CORP, minister of the place.

March 28, at the Independent Chapel, Burwell, Cambridgeshire, by the Rev. A. B. Philips, Mr. H. B. RUMBLE, to Miss C. E. HAMMOND, both of Newmarket.

March 29, at Colchester, by the Rev. Algernon Wells, Mr. ALGERNON WELLS, of Upper Clapton, to SUSANNA FRANCES, eldest daughter of Isaac SEWELL, Esq., of Stamford-hill, and granddaughter of Samuel Daniell, Esq., late of Colchester.

DEATHS.

Nov. 12, 1848, aged 15, ALFRED, fifth son of Mr. Thomas SHORT, of Birmingham, who fell overboard the ship "Panama," on his way home from Penang.

March 21, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian resignation, ANN, the beloved wife of John FETZ, of Louth, Lincolnshire, aged 58 years.

March 25, at his residence, the Rhyd, in the county of Worcester, deeply regretted, Sir ANTHONY LECHMER, Bart., aged 82.

March 25, of consumption, aged 28, SARAH, the beloved wife of Mr. John OLDHAM, of Wainford, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Puchin, of Wainford.

March 27, ELIZABETH, wife of the Rev. J. HICKLING, Wesleyan minister, Appleton-gate, Newark, aged 69.

March 27, Mrs. SARAH BAYLEY, aged 70, at the house of her son, the Rev. R. S. Bayley, Stepney-causeway, and for nearly forty years a fervent Christian.

March 29, suddenly, at St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, aged 45, the Rev. ELIEL DAVIS, Baptist minister. He has left a wife and nine children, seven of whom were entirely dependent on him for support. He was greatly beloved by the church and congregation, over which he has presided seven years.

